

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS

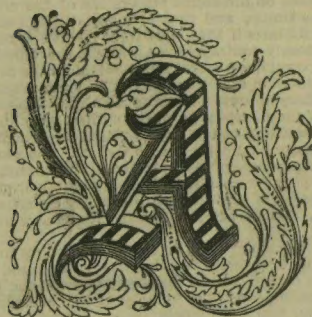


No. 152.—Vol. VI.]

FOR THE WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, MARCH 29, 1845.

[SIXPENCE.]

PRESIDENT POLK.



AMERICA, the "equal land without a lord," has just witnessed the inauguration of her new President, in the person of Mr. Polk. We have read the accounts of the pomp and circumstance attending the event, but they have not impressed us with a very lofty idea of the pageantry of the "States." Perhaps it may be attributed to the sense of discomfort and disappointment

felt by the writer, a Whig spectator, soaked with rain and soured by the success of the Democrats. Certainly there is a sub-acidity of manner, a tinge of ill-humour visible throughout the narrative, which we can only account for by the double influence of dampness and defeat. The writer makes quite a feature of the rain and the defences against it:—

"As the rain increased, umbrellas became in great request, and, as all were well supplied, a spectator some distance up the avenue, looking towards the Capitol, could see only a long line of moving umbrellas terminating at the Capitol, the dome of which towered up like a gigantic umbrella held up by some invisible hand."

But his spleen becomes more apparent as he proceeds; there is a decided disposition to underrate in the following:—

"The 'Officers and Soldiers of the Revolution' were represented by one fat pursy gentleman, in a sort of navy undress, who might be some purser or other, about fifty years of age, two young naval officers, one of them (Lieutenant Eld) late of the exploring expedition, and two boys, apparently midshipmen, about sixteen years of age, and this respectable number of five individuals represented the revolutionary warriors."

He presently drops the connected narrative style, and lets the officials present with the auctioneer-like brevity of a catalogue of sale:—

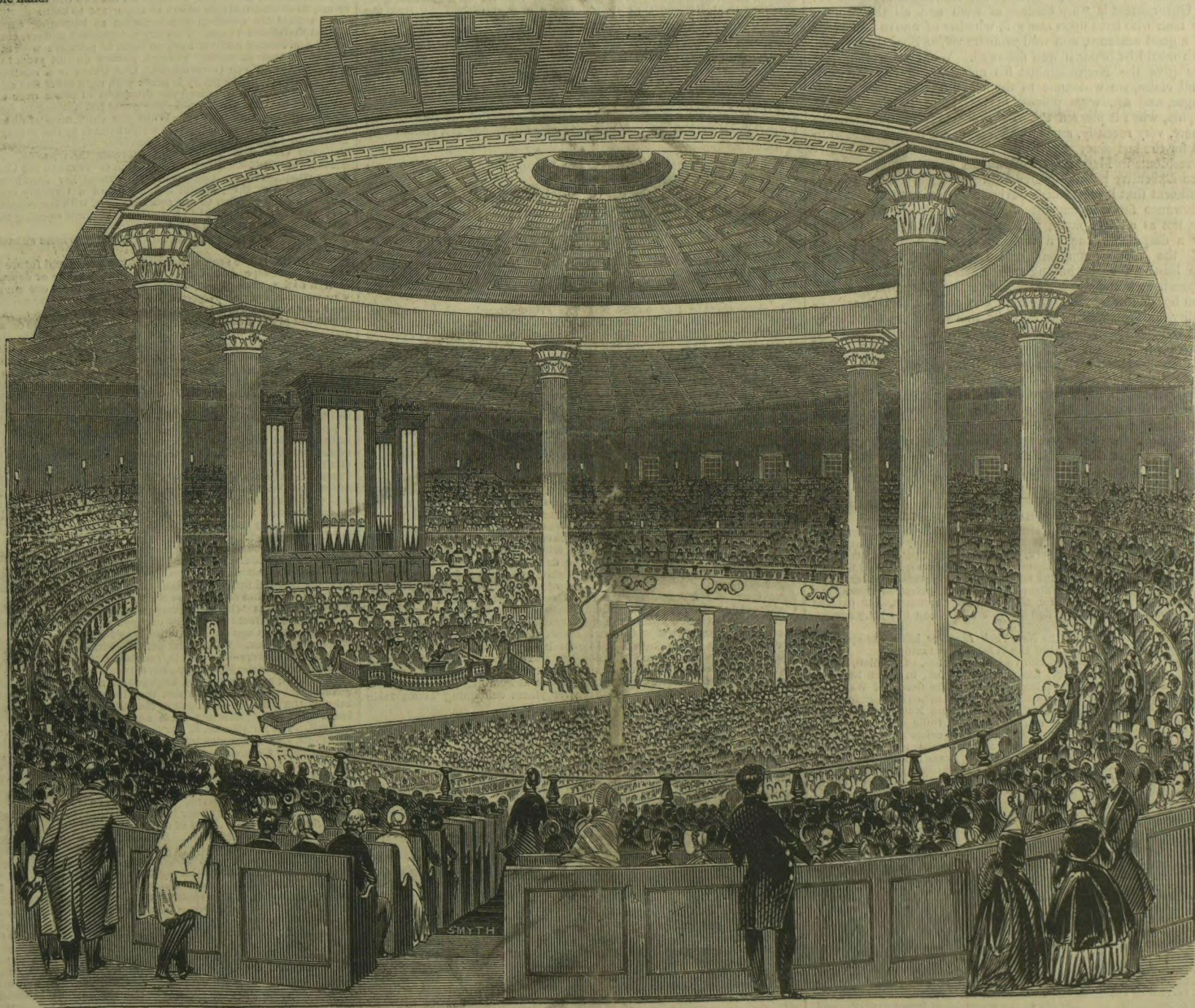
"Ex Presidents—none.
"Tyler's Cabinet—Wickliffe and Wilkins.
"Supreme Court—none.
"Diplomatic Corps—none."

Altogether, the account in the American paper is a long, clumsy, and vulgar endeavour to ridicule the ceremonial of a day, which, as in all elective contests, brought humiliation to one of the contending parties. But there are more important matters than pageantry, however described, and we quit the outward manifestations of the occasion to what is of more consequence—the declaration of the new President, and the event the intelligence of which has accompanied it to England.

The inaugural Address of Mr. Polk is, of course, like opening addresses of all kinds—profuse in promises; it is also like every

address of an American President, extravagant in its praises of the American people, laws, and constitution. It is even more enthusiastic than is usual on these points, and if we did not know better by experience, we should believe that Utopia was found at last, and that the earthly paradise was bounded on the north by the St. Lawrence, stretching southwards to Texas, which is likely to be soon a part of it:—

The inestimable value of our federal Union is felt and acknowledged by all. By this system of united and confederated states, our people are permitted, collectively and individually, to seek their own happiness in their own way: and the consequences have been most auspicious. Since the Union was formed the number of the states has increased from thirteen to twenty-eight; two of these have taken their position as members of the confederacy within the last week. Our population has increased from three to twenty millions. New communities and states are seeking protection under itsegis, and multitudes from the Old World are flocking to our shores to participate in its blessings. Beneath its benign sway, peace and prosperity prevailed. Freed from the burdens and miseries of war, our trade and intercourse have extended throughout the world. Mind, no longer tasked in devising means to accomplish or resist schemes of ambition, usurpation, or conquest, is devoting itself to man's true interests, in developing his faculties and powers, and the capacity of nature to minister to his enjoyments. Genius is free to announce its inventions and discoveries; and the hand is free to accomplish whatever the head conceives, not incompatible with the rights of a fellow being. All distinctions of birth or of rank have been abolished. All citizens, whether native or adopted, are placed upon terms of precise equality. All are entitled to equal rights and equal



CELEBRATION OF WASHINGTON'S BIRTH-DAY, IN THE TABERNACLE, NEW YORK.—(See next page.)

protection. No union exists between church and state, and perfect freedom of opinion is guaranteed to all sects and creeds.

The greater portion of this is a mere flourish, that might pass when read to a mob of thousands on a day of more excitement than thought; but, as a State document, to be read and judged in Europe, it is a very frothy affair. What can we think of the declaration that—"Mind no longer tasked in devising means to accomplish or resist schemes of ambition, usurpation, or conquest, is devoting itself to man's true interests," when at the very moment it is made, the "mind" of American statesmen is actively engaged in a scheme of "ambition, usurpation," if not of conquest, in the annexation of Texas to the Republic, and when, in the very same address, the occupation of the British territory of Oregon is openly advocated. As to what is said about "equal rights and equal protection," it must be understood to apply to "citizens" alone; their "fellow beings" of another colour have neither one nor the other.

The rest of the address, as it goes more into detail, we admit, less liable to censure in point of taste; but it broaches many subjects which will, to England, become matters of deep consideration.

In the first place, comes the annexation of Texas to the territory and Government of the United States, as Florida and Iowa have actually been united to it very recently. Texas has an immense surface, but a population very small in comparison to it; it has a territory of 300,000 square miles, and a white population not exceeding 70,000 souls. In territory alone then, can the United States gain at present by the acquisition, and of what use mere unoccupied land can be to a State that already possesses so vast an amount of it, it is difficult to see; it is like "giving the sum of more to that which hath too much." In America, population does not yet press upon space, and without either Texas or Oregon, of which it seems England is to be relieved, the Union has ample room and verge enough for her surplus numbers for centuries to come. Texas is a region of great capability and promise, but all is yet undeveloped; the Southern States, looking at their own over-cropped and worn-out soils, think, perhaps, that their slaves might find profitable employment in the "fresh fields and pastures new," of the Texan territory. In new Slave States, they will also find a support against the abolitionists of the north; it remains to be seen whether the Texans will really consent to be "absorbed," or, if they do, whether Mexico will let such an event take place, without an opposition that will bring on a hazard of a war between the two Republics.

Another great topic of gratulation, not peculiar indeed to the address of Mr. Polk, but common to all Presidents' Messages, is the frugality of the States and their freedom from debt. With respect to the Federal Government it is true, but if the separate States are taken into consideration, it is not so; they are neither frugal nor free from debt, Pennsylvania to wit. In fact, there is a fictitious sort of credit claimed here which cannot be too often exposed; all the advantages the separate States bring the Union by their population and commerce, are duly claimed and insisted on; but if they become embarrassed—if they rush into debt—if they incur liabilities and refuse to discharge them—then the President disowns them, says that the State, as a State, has nothing to do with them, and leaves them at liberty to cheat their creditors as they please.

This is neither fair nor just; a Government should either be one thing or the other; if it professes to have any control or power at all, it should take all the responsibilities belonging to it; if it has none, it should keep all mention of the advantages it derives from its separate states out of the President's Messages. Again the Federal Government is "a protector of each and all the States; of every man who lives upon our soil, whether of native or foreign birth;" a good sentence, and well pronounced, as Shakespeare says, but which would be better if well followed. What protection does the State give the Negro against his master, or if colour extinguishes all claim, we will come to the white and the free man—the stranger, and ask what protection was there for the Irish of Philadelphia, when it pleased the free and enlightened citizens to renew there, very recently, scenes which have not been witnessed in England for the last sixty years? The truth is, and no vapouring of Presidents in Messages or Addresses can disguise the fact, that as an Executive power the Federal form of Government is the most inefficient that has ever been devised. We are willing to make every allowance for a document prepared for delivery to a large audience, not as a State paper, to be analysed like a set of instructions or a despatch; such a manifesto must partake more or less of the *ad captandum vulgus* style, like a speech from the hustings, or an harangue in Exeter Hall. But even in such a speech we could not see assertions of equality of rights and protection boasted of by men who nourish slavery at their hearths—of frugality and freedom from debt, by those who are notoriously and disgracefully embarrassed—of the absence of ambitious designs, when they are grasping at territory on every side—we could not see all these assertions made without putting it on record, that in England, at least, the public are not duped by them.

For the rest, taken as a composition, the address of President Polk is better written, its language is clearer, more condensed, and vigorous than that of American Presidents has for some time been; compared with the wordy, slipshod and ungrammatical messages of President Tyler, it absolutely shines; but, nevertheless, we cannot admire either the tone or matter of the address of Mr. President Polk.

CELEBRATION OF WASHINGTON'S BIRTH-DAY.

The anniversary of the birth of Washington (February 22, 1732.) was this year celebrated by the Washingtonian Temperance Society, with great ceremony, at the Tabernacle, in New York, on the evening of Saturday, the 22nd ult. This vast building was densely crowded on the occasion; and the performances on the fine organ, and the addresses of the several speakers were received with great *clat*. The Tabernacle, as our illustration shows, is a splendid building; and its beautiful Sienna marble columns, and paneled roof, the whole lighted with gas, had a very brilliant and imposing appearance.

We may here mention, that in the *New York Inquirer* have just appeared the following anecdotic particulars of the Washington family:—

A translation of a letter from B. von von Washington, of Munich, to the United States Consul at that place, has been published, in which he gives some interesting particulars concerning a branch of the family of Washington, with which the writer is connected. Both branches sprang from an English family, holding large possessions in York and Northampton, connected by marriage with Earl Ferrers, and Villiers, Duke of Buckingham. The branch from which George Washington descended, emigrated to America about the year 1630. James Washington, another member, became so deeply implicated with the Duke of Monmouth, in the time of Charles II., that he fled from England, and after losing all his property by shipwreck, reached Holland, where he became the founder of a branch of the Washington family, which still exists, and to which the Baron, who writes the letter stating these facts, belongs. The Baron was in 1794, in the Dutch service, afterwards Lieutenant in the Dutch brigade of the Prince of Orange; in the English service in 1799, and since 1802, has been attached to the Bavarian King, partly as Marshal of the Court, and partly as Aide-de-Camp. James Washington, his great-grandfather, is mentioned by General Washington in some of his letters, as among his ancestors, and a merchant at Rotterdam.

The *Journal des Chemins de Fer* states that the bill for the Paris and Strasbourg Railroad will be shortly presented to the Chambers, and that the bill for the road between Dijon and Mulhouse will be brought in before the end of the session, but not for six weeks or two months, as the council of the ponts et chaussées has not yet decided upon the line it is to take.

Frankfort letters allude to the foundation of a National Church of Germany, emancipating the German Catholics from the influence of Rome, as an event that may bear consequences, rivaling in importance the reformation carried by the energy of Luther and his followers. An immense number of communities exist already in the countries of Brunswick, Saxony, Baden, and Nassau, following those which first were created in Silesia and Posen.

The weather has been extremely stormy lately in the Red Sea; several native boats have been lost, and one with nearly two hundred Mahomedan passengers, who were on their way to Mecca.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

PARISIANA.

(From our own Correspondent.)

PARIS, Wednesday.

The cold has frozen the very life blood of Longchamps—that famed promenade of fashion, from which its decrees are issued to the uttermost bounds of the universe. None could resist the severity of the weather, and so biting a frost was as hostile to the display of open equipages, and sleek, thorough bred horses, as to the exhibitions of silks and satins, plumes and feathers. It were well that the custom should here find its end. What an epoch is the holy week for a festival of fashion. The solemnities of Longchamps arose from a Queen's yearly religious pilgrimage to a favourite sanctuary, and since that day the votaries of fashion have haunted the spot. Longchamps is not the only rendezvous of pleasure that has this year suffered from caprice or from cold. The theatres particularly are on the decline. The Grand Opera, the grand national lyrical establishment of the country, to which Government, in several different forms, contributes £30,000 per annum, has only had one month of tolerable existence, and this arose from the presence of the 36 little dancing girls from Vienna. The Theatre Français, where Racine and Corneille excited such enthusiasm of yore, and where Molière, Latouche, and Regnard raised French comedy to unrivalled pre-eminence, is now totally deficient of actors of first-rate talent. Rachel and Plessy alone uphold this national institution, where the only means found to employ the mixed company, is to perform dramas of questionable character, hastily written by those romance and novel writers who fill the feuilletons of the daily papers—men

"dont la fertile plume

Peut tous les jours enfanter un volume."

The subscribers to the "Italiens" are also vowing vengeance against their Impresario, so that all the great theatres, besides several of the smaller institutions of the kind in Paris, are in rapid decline. The Englishmen of fashion now daily arriving here on their way to London, speak, on the contrary, with great praise of the success of the Italian theatres during the season just closed. During the Carnival, Florence kept open eight; Rome, six; Naples, seven; Turin, five; and Venice, four theatres. Milan had two theatres flourishing at the same time with the ballet. The fact is, that the Italian Opera is the rage in every country. There are Italian Operas at Vienna, Copenhagen, Berlin, Stockholm, St. Petersburg, Moscow, Odessa, Amsterdam, Hamburg, Warsaw, Madrid, Saragossa, Valencia, Barcelona, Tolosa, Xeres, Palma, at Lisbon, at Smyrna. Havannah, Mexico, New York, at Bahia, and Rio Janeiro, at Algiers, at Oran, at Constantinople, &c. &c. This season, Milan has worn the chief laurels, and has brought out the greatest number of new operas.

The general topic of conversation of society in Paris, is the new history of M. Thiers, which is written in a slipshod style, but which, from the general curiosity regarding the *scripta* as well as the *dicta* of its celebrated author, and from the mass of new data to which his official position has given him access, has the most extraordinary vogue. Nothing equal to the sale of this work has been seen for thirty years. Several booksellers who subscribed for four hundred copies of the first edition are still waiting anxiously for a further supply from the third edition, at present publishing. Ten thousand volumes have been absorbed in one day! Such an appetite for history has never been known—and sooth to say, Thiers's volumes form no history at all. They are a collection of facts and fancies cooked to suit the vain glorious appetite of his good countrymen; thanks to his euphuism each of us thinks himself a hero for the time, when he reads it, notwithstanding the present state of the institutions. Much curiosity and anxiety have been raised relative to the removal of the Grand Opera from its present site—I shall not enter into the various views which are entertained, or the innumerable *ou dits* that are afloat; each party has its peculiar views.

There is a report here that has gained ground that Baron Rothschild has purchased the chateau of Muskau, the property of the travelling literature, Prince Puckler, at the enormous sum of 1,450,000 Prussian dollars. Will the Banker King obtain by this Prussian purchase the political status which he has vainly sought to obtain in Austria.

One of the most interesting societies of the season has been that of the Jew Doctor Koreff, so anxious for notoriety; all that is remarkable in rank and literature was there assembled. Among the guests were the Saxon, the Swedish, and Bavarian ambassadors. M. de Humboldt, Weithen, the celebrated German hydropathist, and the illustrious Danish poet Gehen schlager, who read several extracts of a new tragedy, the subject of which is founded upon a Norwegian legend; need I say how delighted were the company, and how proud was his friend M. de Humboldt when the time honoured bard offered to him the dedication. The *entente cordiale* has received another illustration in the gift of your Queen Victoria of a splendid gold snuff-box to M. Rolland, for his present of a quarter of beef cut from the fat carcass of *bœuf-gras*. It was delivered—not the beef, but the box—in due form by your ambassador. An extraordinary sensation was created last Wednesday, upon the occasion of the performance of "Le Desert," by the appearance in a private box of Horace Vernet, the African artist, *par excellence*, Colonel Yusuf, the celebrated founder of the sect of St. Simoniens, who, I suppose, was determined to remunerate himself for the failure of his apostleship, by the lyrical triumph of his disciple. Damoreau Cinti, and Loisa Puget, appeared turbaned and trousered upon the occasion. The people are positively "Desert" mad—the talk is of tents, chiboukes, Barbary coursers, and Almêds—everything in this country is a passion!

FRANCE.

The news from France this week is unimportant, but there is some interest in the accounts from Switzerland. There have been some rather exciting discussions in the Diet, upon the subject of the Jesuits, but no result had been arrived at.

An official note has been sent to the Diet by Prince Metternich, in which he states that the Emperor of Austria concurs with the views of the English and French Governments, "relative to the reprobation which, in the despatches transmitted to the Count de Pontois, the latter pronounces upon the enterprises and the existence of the free corps. A Government not possessing sufficient power to master its subjects, to prevent them carrying, with arms in hands, murder and pillage into the territory of an inoffensive neighbour, such a Government would not deserve that name."

In dismissing the Diet, on the 20th, the President acknowledged the receipt of Prince Metternich's note, adding that he had not had time to place it in the hands of the deputies, but would communicate it to all the cantonal Governments. In announcing the close of the Diet, the President enjoined the deputies to use their utmost influence to maintain order and public tranquillity, "so that the spirit of party should not rise above that of the interests of the country." He added, that "Switzerland would repent too late if the authority and power of the country be surrendered to party."

The Paris Chamber of Deputies is engaged in the discussion of the Customs Bill. The Minister of Finance has presented two projects of law, the one relative to the payment of the dividend due on the Greek Loan, and the other proposing the withdrawal from circulation of pieces of 15 and 30 sous, &c., and the issuing of other small coin, more in accordance with the decimal system.

The *Constitutionnel* has a letter from Tangier, in which it is stated that Abd-el-Kader had assumed a hostile attitude towards the Emperor Abderrahman, and called upon all true Mussulmans to join his standard. A considerable number of troops, under the command of the Emperor's son, had been sent to oppose him; but little good was expected from the expedition, as numerous portions of the populations have already declared in his favour. Several circles or districts are in open rebellion. This state of things is the more serious, as the party opposed to the dynasty of Abderrahman is very powerful, and has only wanted a chief of ability to direct it.

The cause of the blowing up of the powder magazine at Algiers was un discovered. The *Toulonnais* gives the following version of the cause of the event:—A long time since some Moors were employed in piling up in the room in which the fire broke out a quantity of hollow and charged projectiles. It may be supposed that some powder scattered on the floor had not been swept up. One of the projectiles, insecurely placed, may have rolled from a height to the ground on the powder; and by the sudden contact have ignited it. This is plausible enough, but is it the fact? The disaster cannot be attributed to ill-will, for the magazine was guarded by French troops, with all the precautions usually taken for places containing inflammable matter.

UNITED STATES.

MESSAGE OF THE NEW PRESIDENT.—THE ANNEXATION OF TEXAS.

By the arrival of the packet-ship *George Washington*, we are in possession of New York papers to the 6th inst. Their contents are exceedingly important, and the news they bring cannot fail to excite considerable interest in a political point of view.

The bill for the Annexation of Texas to the United States, which passed the Senate on the 27th Feb., had passed the House of Representatives on the 28th, and was returned with the signature of the President on the 1st. The resolution had passed by a vote of 27 to 25, a majority of two.

Mr. Polk, the new President, after taking the usual oaths, delivered his inaugural address on the 1st of March. The ceremony is described as being most imposing, the numbers assembled to witness it far exceeding any former occasion. This address is much shorter than those usually delivered by American Presidents, but it is pointed and to the purpose. We subjoin an analysis of the most interesting topics to which allusion is made in this address. The new President, after touching upon the vast responsibility which he has taken upon himself, says that it will be his first care to administer the Government in the true spirit of the constitution. Mr. Polk describes the system adopted in the United States as the "most admirable and wisest system of well-regulated self-government among men ever devised by human minds;" and thus eulogises the federal union:—

"The inestimable value of our federal union is felt and acknowledged by all. By this system of united and federated States, our people are permitted, collectively and individually, to seek their own happiness in their own way; and the consequences have been most auspicious. Since the Union was formed the number of the States has increased from thirteen to twenty eight—two of these have taken their position as members of the confederacy within the last week. Our population has increased from three to twenty

millions. New communities and States are seeking protection under itsegis, and multitudes from the Old World are flocking to our shores to participate in its blessings. Beneath its benign sway peace and prosperity prevail. Freed from the burthens and miseries of war, our trade and intercourse have extended throughout the world. Mind no longer tasked in devising means to accomplish or resist schemes of ambition, usurpation, or conquest, is devoting itself to man's true interests, in developing his faculties and powers, and the capacity of nature to minister to his enjoyments. Genius is free to announce its inventions and discoveries; and the hand is free to accomplish whatever the head conceives, not incompatible with the rights of a fellow being. All distinctions of birth or of rank have been abolished. All citizens, whether native or adopted, are placed upon terms of precise equality. All are entitled to equal rights and equal protection. No union exists between Church and State; and perfect freedom of opinion is guaranteed to all sects and creeds."

After stating his determination to preserve this federal union, the new President gives an outline of the policy he intends to pursue:—

"With these views of the nature, character, and objects of the government, and the value of the Union, I shall steadily oppose the creation of those institutions and systems which, in their nature, tend to pervert it from its legitimate purposes, and make it the instrument of sections, classes, and individuals. We need no national banks, or other extraneous institutions, planted around the government to control or strengthen it in opposition to the will of its authors. Experience has taught us how unnecessary they are as auxiliaries of the public authorities—how impotent for good, and how powerful for mischief."

"Ours was intended to be a plain and frugal government; and I shall regard it to be my duty to recommend to Congress, and as far as the executive is concerned, to enforce by all means within my power the strictest economy in the expenditure of the public money, which may be compatible with the public interests."

"A national debt has become almost an institution of European monarchies. It is viewed, in some of them, as an essential prop to existing governments. Melancholy is the condition of that people whose government can be sustained only by a system which periodically transfers large amounts from the labours of the many to the coffers of the few. Such a system is incompatible with the ends for which our republican government was instituted. Under a wise policy the debts contracted in our revolution and during the war of 1812 have been happily extinguished. By a judicious application of the revenues not required for other necessary purposes, it is not doubted that the debt which has grown out of the circumstances of the last few years may be speedily paid off."

"I congratulate my fellow-citizens on the entire restoration of the credit of the general government of the Union, and that of many of the States. Happy would it be for the indebted States if they were freed from their liabilities, many of which were incautiously contracted. Although the Government of the Union is neither in a legal nor a moral sense bound for the debts of the States, and it would be a violation of our compact of Union to assume them, yet we cannot but feel a deep interest in seeing all the States meet their public liabilities, and pay off their just debts, at the earliest practicable period. That they will do so as soon as it can be done without imposing too heavy burdens on their citizens, there is no reason to doubt. The sound moral and honourable feeling of the people of the indebted States cannot be questioned; and we are happy to perceive a settled disposition on their part, as their ability returns, after a season of unexampled pecuniary embarrassment, to pay off all just demands, and to acquiesce in any reasonable measures to accomplish that object."

He next gives his views of the principles upon which a tariff ought to be framed. In his opinion, in levying discriminating duties, "care should be taken that it be done in a manner not to benefit the wealthy few at the expense of the toiling millions, by taxing *lowest* the luxuries of life, or articles of superior quality and high price, which can only be consumed by the wealthy; and *highest*, the necessaries of life, or articles of coarse quality and low price, which the poor and great mass of our people must consume. The burdens of government should, as far as practicable, be distributed justly and equally among all classes of our population."

Mr. Polk now comes to the great question of the annexation of Texas, upon which, as will be seen, he speaks in a dictatorial tone, claiming for the United States the sole and exclusive privilege of deciding upon it:—

"The republic of Texas has made known her desire to come into our Union, to form a part of our confederacy, and enjoy with us the blessings of liberty secured and guaranteed by our constitution. Texas was once a part of our country—was unwisely ceded away to a foreign power—is now independent, and possesses an undoubted right to dispose of a part or the whole of her territory, and to merge her sovereignty, as a separate and independent state, in ours. I congratulate my country that, by an Act of the late Congress of the United States, the assent of this Government has been given to the re-union; and it only remains for the two countries to agree upon the terms, to consummate an object so important to both."

"I regard the question of annexation as belonging exclusively to the United States and Texas. They are independent powers, competent to contract; and foreign nations have no right to interfere with them, to take exceptions to their re-union. Foreign powers do not seem to appreciate the true character of our Government. Our Union is a confederation of independent states, whose policy is peace with each other and all the world. To enlarge its limits is to extend the dominion of peace over additional territories and increasing millions. The world has nothing to fear from military ambition in our Government. While the chief magistrate and the popular branch of Congress are elected for short terms by the suffrages of those millions, who must in their own persons bear all the burthens and miseries of war, our Government cannot be otherwise than pacific. Foreign powers should, therefore, look on the annexation of Texas to the United States, not as the conquest of a nation seeking to extend her dominions by arms and violence, but as the peaceful acquisition of a territory once her own, by adding another member to our confederation, with the consent of that member; thereby diminishing the chances of war, and opening to them new and ever-increasing markets for their products."

An argument ensues upon the danger likely to arise should Texas remain independent.

"None can fail to see the danger to our safety and future peace, if Texas remains an independent state, or becomes an ally or dependency of some foreign nation more powerful than herself. Is there one among our citizens who would not prefer perpetual peace with Texas to occasional wars, which so often occur between bordering independent nations? Is there one who would not prefer free intercourse with her, to high duties on all our products and manufactures which enter her ports or cross her frontiers? Is there one who would not prefer an unrestricted communication with her citizens, to the frontier obstruction which must occur if she remains out of the Union? Whatever is good or evil in the local institutions of Texas, will remain her own, whether annexed to the United States or not. None of the present states will be responsible for them, any more than they are for the local institutions of each other. They have confederated together for certain specified objects. Upon the same principle, that they would refuse to form a perpetual union with Texas because of her local institutions, our forefathers would have been prevented from forming our present Union. Perceiving no valid objection to the measure, and many reasons for its adoption vitally affecting the peace, the safety, and the prosperity of both countries, I shall, on the broad principle which formed the basis and produced the adoption of our constitution, and not in any narrow spirit of sectional policy, endeavour, by all constitutional, honourable, and appropriate means, to consummate the expressed will of the people and government of the United States, by the re-annexation of Texas to our Union at the earliest practicable period."

Mr. Polk speaks in equally decisive and peremptory terms upon the boundary question. He says:—

"Nor will it become in a less degree my duty to assert and maintain, by all constitutional means, the right of the United States to that portion of our territory which lies beyond the Rocky Mountains. Our title to the country of the Oregon is 'clear and unquestionable,' and already are our people preparing to perfect that title by occupying it with their wives and children. But eighty years ago our population was confined on the west by the ridge of the Alleghanies. Within that period—within the lifetime, I might say, of some of my hearers—our people, increasing to many millions, have filled the eastern valley of the Mississippi, adventurously ascending the Missouri to its head springs, and are already engaged in establishing the blessings of self-government in valleys of which the rivers flow to the Pacific. The world beholds the peaceful triumphs of the industry of our emigrants. To us belongs the duty of protecting them adequately wherever they may be upon our soil. The jurisdiction of our laws, and the benefits of our republican institutions, should be extended over them in the distant regions which they have selected for their homes. The increasing facilities of intercourse will easily bring the States, of which the formation in that part of our territory cannot be long delayed, within the sphere of our federative Union. In the meantime, every obligation imposed by treaty or conventional stipulations should be sacredly respected."

"In the management of our foreign relations it will be my aim to observe a careful respect for the rights of other nations, while our own will be the subject of constant watchfulness. Equal and exact justice should characterise all our intercourse with foreign countries. All alliances having a tendency to jeopard the welfare and honour of our country, or sacrifice any one of the national interests, will be studiously avoided; and yet no opportunity will be lost to cultivate a favourable understanding with foreign governments, by which our navigation and commerce may be extended and the ample products of our fertile soil, as well as the manufactures of our skillful artisans, find a ready market and remunerating prices in foreign countries."

The address concludes thus:—"Confidently relying upon the aid and assistance of the co-ordinate departments of the Government in conducting our public affairs, I enter upon the discharge of the high duties which have been assigned me by the people again humbly supplicating that Divine Being, who has watched over and protected our beloved country from its infancy to the present hour, to continue his gracious benedictions upon us, that we may continue to be a prosperous and happy people." We find from these papers that, after passing a few measures of an immediate local interest, the session of Congress was brought to a close.

It is understood that the Mexican Minister at Washington, Almonte, has made all necessary arrangements for his return to Mexico.

He is said to be only waiting for the President to sign the Texan annexation resolutions, and to make the usual proclamation, which will soon be

done, to demand his passports and make his protest, and to retire and break up all official relations with the Government of the United States. Despatches were forwarded by the Mexican Minister, by express, to New Orleans, to be sent to the city of Mexico, informing the Government of the passing of the Texan resolutions. Private letters, from the highest sources, from that city, state that the instant the intelligence is received there the Government of Mexico will immediately declare war and issue letters of marque and reprisal.

Private letters from Canada assure us of the improved health of Lord Metcalfe, the Governor General.

The commercial intelligence from America is of no special import. The stock market was rather brisk, and a great rise had taken place in all descriptions of Texan securities and property consequent on the Annexation.

The following is the latest information respecting the formation of Mr. Polk's Cabinet:—

Secretary of State, Senator Buchanan, of Pennsylvania.

Secretary of Treasury, Senator Walker, of Mississippi.

Secretary of Navy, George Bancroft, of Massachusetts.

Secretary of War, Governor Marcy, of New York.

Postmaster-General, Cave Johnson, of Tennessee.

Attorney-General, Mr. Mason, late Secretary of the Navy, who is said to have had this offered to him, and to have refused it; and it is now said that J. W. Jones, late Speaker of the House of Representatives, will be the incumbent, but it is also said that this post remains unfilled, and that it is the only one that is so.

THE WEST INDIES.

The *Severn* has arrived from the West Indies; her dates are—Jamaica, Feb. 23; Cartagena, 6th; Demerara, 19th; Trinidad, 20th; Barbadoes, 24th; Grenada, 26th; St. Thomas, 1st March; and Fayal, 15th. The *Severn* brought twenty-six passengers, and in freight 140,000 dollars value of specie and gold dust, 2900 value of pearls, and ten tierces of coffee, being the first produce imported by this company's steamers.

A few additional particulars are given in the papers of the late fire in Barbadoes. It is stated that above 180 houses have been destroyed, which, together with the property contained in them, are valued at £500,000; a fourth part of the stone built portion of the city of Bridgetown, is entirely destroyed. Three lives were lost; two men injured by the fire having since died; and an old lady died from fright.

Lord Elgin, the Governor of Jamaica, laid the foundation stone of the new Penitentiary on the 22nd of February. In his address on the spot, he "regrets that such an erection is imperatively called for by the unlooked-for and lamentable increase of crime."

From the very favourable season, as well as from the improving cultivation, a larger crop of sugar will be produced in the West Indies than has been obtained for many years. Jamaica, it is said, will make 50,000 hhds., Demerara 45,000, and the other islands one-third to a half more than usual. Agricultural improvements are paid considerable attention to, and the plough and other implements of husbandry are fast coming into use, beneficially replacing manual labour, and no doubt will in the end enable the West India planter to compete with slave-grown sugar.

Mr. Pritchard, it appears, is at Kingston.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

THE NEW MEDICAL BILL.—An aggregate meeting of surgeons was held on Wednesday evening, at the Literary Association, Leicester-square, "for the purpose of defending the body of surgeons from the wrong inflicted by the recent charter, and the further aggression upon their rights threatened by the Government Bill. Thomas Wyse, Esq., M.P., having taken the chair, Dr. Costello, Mr. Morris, Mr. Healey, and other gentlemen, addressed the meeting, and resolutions against the bill were carried.

ST. STEPHEN'S, WALBROOK.—A vestry meeting was held on Thursday morning, of this parish, Dr. Croly, the rector, in the chair; at which, after some conversation as usual, about the accounts, Messrs. Flight and Rock were unanimously elected churchwardens for the ensuing year. Mr. Henry Rock and Mr. Williams were re-elected as overseers. Mr. Crosby made a statement relative to the aspect and prospects of the pending law proceedings, and as there could be no progress to report until after next term, which commences on 15th April, it was resolved to adjourn the present meeting until the 9th May.

THE FANCY FAIR IN THE THAMES TUNNEL.—There was a fancy fair and bazaar in the Thames Tunnel on Monday, which was continued during the week. The stalls were neatly arranged with fancy goods, works of art, and decorated with flags, banners, and Chinese lanterns. The shafts were also brilliantly illuminated with gas, and dressed out with the flags of all nations. The cosmorama and saloon of arts in the Rotherhithe shaft, the temple of magic in the Wapping shaft, the electrifying apparatus, and various exhibitions, afforded much delight to the various promenaders under water. Fifteen thousand passengers went through the Tunnel during Monday.

VICTORIA PARK.—The opening of the weather has placed the operations for the commencement of the park in full activity, and a great many hands have been put on to commence digging for the formation of the plantations. Since October, when the land was given up to the Crown, and during the winter, the operatives have not been inactive in the formation of roads, and placing park paling round the boundaries.

CHEAP SUGAR.—The grocers in the poorer districts of the metropolis are competing as to who shall give the public the fullest benefit in the reduction of the price of this article. In most shops in Drury lane and Clare-market moist sugar is sold as low as 3½d. and 4d. per lb., and refined sugar at 7d. A similar reduction has taken place in the New-cut and the eastern districts of town.—[It is feared that the competition in sugar has led to considerable adulteration.]

METROPOLITAN IMPROVEMENTS.—There is a complete clearance of the houses from Holborn to Lily-street, Saffron-hill, in the line of the new street, comprising more than three-fourths of the distance to Clerkenwell; and the road is nearly formed to its proper level, the whole open remnant of the old Fleet ditch having been covered over. The road complete now from Fleet-chapel to Spitalfields Church has been formed, and paved on each side, the gas lamps having been erected, and the whole line to the docks will be ready for traffic in the course of the summer.

THE WEATHER.—The favourable change which took place in the state of the weather yesterday week still continues, with every appearance of its being lasting. During Saturday and Sunday there was a continuous fall of rain, with the wind S.W., which did not terminate till a late hour on Sunday night. Monday was, in reality, a March "summer's day," the sun shining with great power during the day, and the temperature being most genial. Thursday, also, was a beautiful spring day.

THE FOUNTAINS IN TRAFALGAR-SQUARE.—On Wednesday, about one o'clock, these fountains were put in operation on an experimental trial, which attracted a concourse of some hundreds of persons. Although the water has ascended to a height of forty feet, the jets were only suffered to play to a height of from six to eight feet, as with a greater ascent the water is, by the force of the wind, driven to a considerable distance across the square. The fountains are to play for ten hours each day, such being the contract with the engineers of the works. The cistern from which they are supplied at the top of the engine-house, in Orange street, holds 37,000 gallons of water, and the higher main, at the top of the tower, for the supply of the government offices, about 20,000 gallons.

NAVAL AND MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

LAUNCH OF THE SPITFIRE STEAM-VESSEL, AT DEPTFORD.

This beautiful little steamer, similar in appearance and built on the same slip as the Porcupine, was launched on Wednesday, in the presence of Captain Superintendent Sir John Hill, Knt., Major Hill, of the 32nd Regiment, and a number of respectable parties assembled on the occasion. At three o'clock Mrs. Hill, wife of Major Hill, and daughter-in-law of Sir John Hill, drank a glass of wine to the success of the "Spitfire," and broke the bottle from which the wine was taken on the bows of the vessel. The knocking out the dog-shores then commenced, and in five minutes the Spitfire glided into her future element in fine style, amidst the hearty cheers of the spectators. The Royal Standard and the Admiralty and Union flags were raised on flagstaffs from the deck, and floated proudly in the breeze as the vessel entered the water. The Monkey steam-vessel was ordered round from Woolwich to take the Spitfire in tow to that dockyard to be fitted with her machinery.

The following are the dimensions of the Spitfire:—

	Feet	Inches
Length between the perpendiculars	147	2
Length of keel for tonnage	130	0
Breadth, extreme	25	0
Breadth, for tonnage	25	0
Breadth, moulded	24	5
Depth in hold	14	6
Burthen in tons old measurement	432	17-94
Ditto, new measurement	333	1375-3500

The Termagant, a second class steam-vessel of 1529 tons burthen, 208 feet long, and 40 feet broad, is to be immediately commenced on the same slip from which the Spitfire was launched. The keel of the Odin, a first class steamer, has been laid on the sister slip from which the Terrible was recently launched, and the ribs of this fine vessel are being proceeded with.

THE ADMIRAL'S GOOD SERVICE PENSION.—The Earl of Haddington has conferred the Admiral's good service pension of £300 per annum, which reverted to his lordship's patronage by the decease of Vice-Admiral Sir T. Baker, on Vice-Admiral of the Blue, Henry Hill.

LAUNCH OF HER MAJESTY'S RIVER YACHT.—In the course of the past week a very beautiful small iron steam-boat, intended as a tender to the Royal steam-yacht, the Victoria and Albert, was launched from the building yard of Messrs. Ditchburn and Mare, Blackwall. It has been built at the express desire of her Majesty, so as to convey her up the numerous picturesque rivers round the coast, which the draught of water of the Royal yacht would not admit. She will be called the Fairy, and will be worked by a propeller.

DEATH OF REAR-ADMIRAL RICHARD POULDEN.

—This gallant officer expired, aged 80 years, a few days ago, at his residence, Clifton Villa.

GENERAL SIR CHARLES WALKER, K.C.B.—This gallant officer died at his seat, at Little Shelford, Cambridgeshire, on Thursday week, at the age of 81 years. He was Colonel of the 33rd Regiment, and distinguished himself during the course of a long military career in every quarter of the globe. In private life the deceased General was much beloved and respected.

THE ESPIEGLE, THE DARING, AND THE FLYING FISH.—These experimental 12 gun brigs arrived in Plymouth Sound last week, having been absent from port since the 4th inst. Both the Espiegle and the Flying Fish have gained considerably on the Daring twice. The first trip the Daring had a very slight advantage on a wind. The Espiegle, with five months' provisions on board, has beat the Flying Fish, with only three months' provisions under hatches, on a wind, in five trials out of eight. The Espiegle is considered the first as a man of war, and in other respects.

IRELAND.

THE BANQUET TO MR. O'CONNELL AT KILKENNY.—The long-talked-of banquet to Mr. O'Connell and the other "Repeal martyrs" took place at Kilkenny on Tuesday. The procession was an immense one. By some the number of Repealers was estimated at 30,000. On Mr. O'Connell's carriage were—the principal martyr, Mr. John O'Connell, Mr. Barrett, Mr. Steele, Mr. Ray, and Mr. Smith O'Brien, M.P. They were lustily cheered. The dinner was given in the body of a new building about to be consecrated as a chapel, a temporary roof of canvass being thrown across, tent fashion. It was well lighted, and over the chairman's seat the word "Repeal" blazed forth in bright gas light. Covers were laid for 600, and a row of seats was set apart for and occupied by ladies. At half-past six the doors were thrown open, and the band in attendance struck up "See the conquering hero comes." All eyes were turned towards the grand entrance, and in marched Mr. O'Connell, Mr. John O'Connell, Mr. Smith O'Brien, M.P., Mr. D. Brown, M.P., Mr. Ray, Mr. Clements, and Dr. Cane (the Mayor of Kilkenny), all attired in the uniform of the '92 club. The sight of this warlike costume well nigh set some of the local Repeal leaders frantic with delight—they cheered, and shouted, and cheered again, the ladies waved their handkerchiefs, and one might say the company was compelled to stop by fatigue. After the usual toasts to the Royal Family, the Chairman (Dr. Cane) proposed, in the most eulogistic terms, the health of "O'Connell—Repeal—and No Surrender." Drunk with all the honours.—Mr. O'Connell, in reply, made a long speech, in the course of which he touched upon all the old topics. He said that no less than 50,000 voices proclaimed to-day that the Repeal spirit was high as ever. It gave an answer to the Queen's Speech, or rather to the speech her Ministers put into her mouth. The other speakers were Mr. J. O'Connell, Mr. T. Steele, Mr. Barrett, the Rev. Mr. Tierney, Mr. W. S. O'Brien, and Mr. R. F. D. Browne.

DISTURBED STATE OF THE COUNTRY.—The Irish provincial papers contain notices of occurrences indicative of the disturbed state of the country. Last week, near Aghroo Bridge, in the vicinity of Ballinamore, a person in the employment of Dr. Collins, who has a large property in that part of the county of Leitrim, was visited by a nocturnal gang of ruffians, who served him with a notice to quit the county on pain of incurring death. After this notice, one of the gang fired into the house, but, fortunately, without effect. The only crime attributed to the person thus attacked, is his having come from a distant part of the country, at the expense of the proprietor of the soil, to instruct the people in the best mode of draining and growing green crops. He has had nothing whatever to do with taking land or in ejecting. The counties of Roscommon, Longford, and Galway, are represented to be in a very disturbed state, there being many instances of the turning up of land and serving threatening notices.

ANOTHER MURDER IN TIPPERARY.—On the night of the 17th instant, some of the tenants and other persons in the employment of Mrs. Finch, Kilkenny Abbey, assembled in the house of a man named Frawley, at Bannakry, at a tea party, and amongst them was Mrs. Finch's steward. About eleven o'clock Pat Ryan and Denis Brien, accompanied by four or five strangers, entered the barn of Frawley, where the party were dancing. Soon after Ryan and his companions made their appearance, they endeavoured to kick up a row with the steward (Coleman); in this they were defeated, in consequence of the people quietly ejecting them from the barn and closing the door. After being put out, they unfortunately met a quiet and unoffending poor man, named Jeremiah Halloran, whom they brutally murdered. Word was sent at once to the Kilkenny police, who immediately went in pursuit, and succeeded in arresting Ryan and Brien, both of whom are fully committed.

LAW INTELLIGENCE.

THE ALLEGED LADY THIEF.—At the Middlesex Sessions on Tuesday, Elizabeth Palmer, a respectfully dressed widow, about fifty years of age, was indicted for stealing a piece of beef, value 1s. 6d., the property of Joseph Flowerdale. It appeared that the prisoner is the widow of a journeyman painter, and had been in the habit of dealing at the prosecutor's shop for several years, and that on the occasion in question she went to the shop, and while there was seen to take a piece of beef and conceal it, but was at once charged with the robbery, and given into custody. The circumstances have been mentioned in our paper. Mr. Payne addressed the jury on the part of the prisoner, and complained of the manner in which she had been paraded before the public as a lady thief, but for which the case would have been disposed of in a summary manner. The Learned Counsel called several witnesses, who gave the prisoner an excellent character, and who stated that her late husband was an honest, industrious mechanic, and had maintained that character for several years. Some of the witnesses stated that they knew the prisoner was in great distress at the time of the commission of the offence. The Jury returned a verdict of "Guilty." The Learned Judge then said that he should like to have some further inquiries made into the circumstances of the prisoner before pronouncing upon her the judgment of the Court, and for that purpose her sentence would be respited.

THE SPA-FIELDS BURIAL GROUND.—An indictment has been preferred at these Sessions, by Mr. Wakeling, on behalf of the parochial authorities of Clerkenwell, against the parties engaged in the perpetration of the outrages of public decency at the Spa-fields burial-ground, which are at present exciting so much attention. The grand jury returned a true bill.

POLICE.

SERIOUS OCCURRENCE AT STEPNEY FAIR.—On Tuesday, William Davis was charged at the THAMES Police-office with endangering the life of a man named Bell, in Stepney Fair. The injured person is now in the London Hospital, in a precarious state. David Adams, of No. 6, Match walk, Shadwell, said he was proprietor of an up-and-down swing in Stepney Fair, and the prisoner was employed by him to assist. While the last boat next the ground was being filled with passengers, a hook was screwed on to a stanchion and made fast, to prevent the revolution of the machine until the lowermost boat or car was properly filled, when it was unhooked, and the last boat filled sent up acting by its weight as a counterpoise to the boat coming down. Unless each boat was filled with the proper number of passengers, the labour of turning it was excessive. The boat next the ground had been stopped for the purpose of letting out nine passengers, and taking nine more in, and six only had already entered, when the prisoner unfastened the hook, and the top boat, containing nine passengers, overbalanced, and it came down very swiftly, causing the wheel to revolve, and turning round the handle of the winch at which Bell was stationed, and it struck him on the head and face, and injured him severely. The man was conveyed to the hospital. Mr. G. A. Falconer, a surgeon in the Commercial-road East, said a black man was brought to his house from Adams's "up and down," on Monday night, and expired a few minutes afterwards. He was called upon to see Bell a few minutes previous. There was a contused wound on the forehead, half an inch above the nose, one on the upper lip, and a severe bruise on the lower jaw. The injuries were very serious, and he should say the man was in danger. The prisoner, in defence, said he had no intention to do any injury whatever. There were two hooks, one on each side of the boat, and he unfastened one and the man the other. His master called out that the boat was too light, and he immediately jumped towards it, seized it with his hands, and was carried up six feet more. His master called out, "You will be killed; let go!" and he did so. He did all that laid in his power to stop the boat when he saw it going up too fast. Charles Smith, police sergeant, said he was standing near the "up and down." The man injured was on a raised platform thirty feet from the ground, with a very slight railing around it. He heard the cracking of wood, and upon looking up, saw Bell hanging over the platform with his head downwards. The iron winch-handle of the machine revolved with great velocity, and struck him with great violence. The handle of the winch was too long, and the platform was so very small, that, in the event of any man upon it missing his hold of the winch, he must be struck by the handle (for he could not retreat backwards) unless he laid down. He saw the prisoner carelessly unlock the boat several times, while the master was present, before it was filled. Davis was remanded. He was again brought up on Wednesday. A certificate was put in, stating that Bell was out of danger, and Mr. Broderip liberated the prisoner upon his own recognizance to appear on Wednesday next, to answer any charge that may be preferred against him.

THE MORAL EFFECT OF EXECUTIONS.—At GUILDHALL, on Monday, a lad named Richard Lee was charged with stealing a silk handkerchief from the pocket of Mr. M'Millan, of Powell-street, while he was standing in the Old Bailey, about half-past eight o'clock, looking at the hanging corpse of the man Tapping, who was that morning executed. He detected the prisoner in the fact before he had taken the handkerchief away. The prisoner said the crowd was very great, and if he had his hand accidentally against the complainant's pocket, he had no idea of stealing the handkerchief.—Mr. Alderman Copeland committed him to Bridewell for fourteen days.

THE POISONING CASE AT CAMBERWELL.—On Monday George May, the shopman of the late Mr. and Mrs. Montague, who has been some time in custody on suspicion of having plundered his late master, was finally examined at LAMBETH Police-office, and discharged, as the magistrate was of opinion the evidence was not sufficiently strong to warrant committal for trial.

EVERY BODY'S COLUMN.

EVENING MELODIES. NO. VII.

There's a spell in these tales, one imagines, must touch
The hearts of all wand'ers who find them;
Yet that spell's only felt to perfection by such
As come with those hearts left behind them!
If you've never lov'd deeply and wildly, depart,
And visit this country again, sir;
Let some image of bliss have made captive your heart,
And see how it looks to you *then*, sir!

There's a tale of a man, who, though born in this dell,
Could see nothing lovely about it;
He had heard of that stone of which alchemists tell,
And his life was not happy without it;
But one day to the bower of a lady he stroll'd,
When he found his own folly had hid it;
For all things from that hour turned as precious as gold,
And Love was the bright stone that did it!

Oh! the best of all landscapes were dark, did we rove
With a soul that felt hated and lonely;
For valleys and mountain-streams weren't made to love,
As valleys and mountain-streams only!
But each glance that we give them, new thoughts should infuse
Of some heart that can never turn from us;
As the rainbow, the high bright for its various hues,
Looks brighter because of the Promise!

R. R. S.

HONE MANUFACTURE OF BEET-ROOT SUGAR.

We find by a Parliamentary paper that there is one manufactory of sugar from beet-root and potatoes, at Stratford, in Essex, which made 3800 cwt. of sugar in 1843, and 5420 cwt. in 1844. There is another at Liverpool, which made 432 cwt. in 1843, and 62 cwt. in 1844. There is a third at Portaferry, in Ireland, which seems to have begun in 1844, and in that year made 1154 cwt. This home manufacture pays duty at the colonial rate, namely, 25s. 2½d. per cwt. Last year the duty came to £7032.

DWELLING-HOUSE AND WINDOW-TAX.

The total number of dwelling-houses in the United Kingdom, at the census of 1841, was as follows:—In England, 3,144,641; in Ireland, 1,384,360; and in Scotland, 529,524; being a total of 5,058,525. The number of houses assessed to the window-duty during the same year was, in England, 414,395; and in Scotland, 33,025; total, 447,420. Whilst the amount of duty was, in England, £1,716,331 for the year 1841, and £1,618,932 for the year 1844; in Scotland, £114,126 for 1841, and £124,468 for 1844; making together a total of £1,830,457 for 1841, and £1,743,400 for 1844.

THE ADVANTAGE OF ARTIFICIAL LIMBS.

A Dutch sculptor of the name of Petersen is reported to have contrived artificial legs and arms so perfect, that the latter, though they weigh only one pound, are rather better than natural arms. At least, they are not liable to rheumatism, stiffness in the joints, or fractures, to need amputation.

ONE MORE COMET.

A letter from Rome mentions the discovery of another new comet on the 25th ult., in the constellation of Ursa Major. It was proved to be a true comet, its right ascension as well as its declination, having sensibly diminished on the succeeding day.

TO SLEEP.

Smile as I bow me to thy shrine, O Sleep!
Balm of all weariness, solace of all ill!
Veil up my senses; not that I may kill
Scorpions of conscience 'neath thy shadows deep—
But that from thy protection I may reap
Peace and refreshment, as thy dews instil
Into my frame, and all my spirit fill
With joy, that thou thy watch didst safely keep.
Samaritan of life! with pitying smile,
When weary nature falls upon the road,
Thou com'st an angel to the sons of toil—
Cheering their spirits—lightening their load:
Though wealth may win thee not with golden will,
Unasked upon contentment thou'rt bestowed.

H. F. L.

DISTRESSING TO LADIES OF A CERTAIN AGE.

Baron Alderson has decided that a female aged thirty-two is not a girl, but a young woman.

THE RULING FASSION.

After a marriage in Connecticut, the bridegroom took the parson aside most mysteriously, and whispered to him, "Can't you take the pay out in 'tatoes?"

THE ELECTRICAL TELEGRAPH.

Mr. Wheatstone is on his way to Paris for the arrangement of an electric telegraph in France. It may soon be completed from Havre to Paris; from Paris to Marseilles there will be a continuous line of railway, and a telegraph on it; thus we reach the Mediterranean; thence Egypt, across the desert, and so to Bombay and Calcutta. We shall soon have our continuous line to Venice; then across the desert, and finally from Calcutta to Bombay as before.

CONTRADICTION OF PROVERBS.

"The more the merrier." Not so; one hand is enough in a purse.
"Nothing but has an end." Not so; a ring hath none, for it is round.
"Money is a great comfort." Not when it brings a thief to the gallows.
"The world is a long journey." Not so; the sun goes over it every day.
"A friend is best found in adversity." Not so; for then there is none to be found.
"The pride of the rich makes the labour of the poor." Not so; the labour of the poor makes the pride of the rich.

LA ROCKITE ARGUMENT.

A Tipperary Rockite sends a letter of advice to a neighbour about taking a certain piece of land or letting it alone, and ends with this pithy question, "What's the whole world to a man if his wife be a widow?"

A BUSY TOWN.

They have a little town "Out West," which appears to have been overlooked by Dickens and other English travellers, and which is "all sorts" of a stirring place. In one day they recently had two street fights, hung a man, rode three miles out of town on a rail, got up a quarter race, a turkey shooting, a gander pulling, a match dog fight, had preaching by a Methodist circuit rider, who afterwards ran a foot-race for drinks "all round;" and as if this was not enough, the judge of the court, after losing a year's salary at single-handed poker, and whipping a person who said he didn't understand the game, went out and helped to lynch a man for hog-stealing.—*Hulifax Morning Post*.

THE OLDEST INHABITANT DISCOVERED.

We have finally found out (says an American paper) who that much-talked-of individual, the "oldest inhabitant" is. An elderly chap, speaking of his great knowledge of the western country the other day, said that he had "known the Mississippi river ever since it was a small creek!" He's the man.

PACIFICATION.

At a recent Repeal meeting in Dublin, Tom Steele, the "head pacificator," called for a "tornado of groans" for the "*Nenagh Guardian*."

IMPROVEMENT IN TRAVELLING.

In March, 1745, a Bath paper announced that the London Flying stage-coach would perform the journey from Bath in two days. In March, 1845, the distance was performed in two hours and three quarters.

THE CONVICT'S WIFE.

Her lovely daughter prattled at her knee;
While tears bedimmed her eyes, to think its fate
In the wide world was lone and desolate,
Save her own fond devotion—you might see
The working of her bosom's agony,
Upon her face its force delineate;
And as her finger checked the infant's prate—
Again, her tears gush'd copiously and free.
Unmated dove! whose happy early nest
Rude crime broke in upon, and tore away
The unworthy partner of thy guileless breast,
And left thee here for scorn, or shame, or prey:
Who shall administer thy spirit rest—
Or help thee bear the burden of the day? H. F. L.

AN OPINION ABOUT MARRIAGE.

A wicked bachelor said once, that no matter whom you married, you would find afterwards you had married a different person.

AN IDEA ABOUT THE ELECTRICAL TELEGRAPH.

The magnetic telegraph has been described as a thing with wire nerves, strung with lightning.

PEDANTRY.

Pedantry crams our heads with learned lumber, and takes out our brains to make room for it.

THE POPULATION OF GERMANY.

According to the late census of the German states, included in the Customs Union, the population, which was 27½ millions, has increased by 875 000 souls in the three years, or by 3.4-100 per cent.

AMERICAN COMMERCIAL ELOQUENCE.

A remarkable rich specimen of the commercial eloquence and "florid style" used by our Transatlantic brethren, is to be met with in recent New York papers, in the form of an advertisement, recommending the attractions of—a tailor's shop! The head-line consists of the single word "Niagara," in capitals an inch long, and then the lofty spirit of the Yankee "man of measures" breaks out in these words:—"Like the rush of the mighty waters of Niagara, bearing everything on in its course, so has been the rush of trade at Oak Hall during the last year and a half!"



DESTRUCTION OF THE "TRIBUNE" OFFICE, NEW YORK.

DESTRUCTION OF THE "TRIBUNE" OFFICE, NEW YORK.

During the terrific storm at New York, on the 5th ult., a fire broke out at about 4 o'clock in the morning, in the office of the *Tribune* newspaper, covering lots Nos. 158 and 160, Nassau-street, New York, opposite the City Hall. At the time of the alarm, Mr. Graham, the proprietor of the *Tribune*, and a clerk, were sleeping in the second story, until awakened by the roar of the flames, and the door and stairway being on fire, they jumped from a window and escaped. The compositors in the fifth story, and the pressmen in the basement, had barely time to save themselves. A few books were saved, and nothing else. The circumstances of this fire were very peculiar. In the account in the *Tribune*, it is observed:—

"No man could have imagined that such an establishment, in which men were constantly at work night and day, could be wholly consumed by fire. There has not been another night, since the building was put up, when it could have been burned down, even if deliberately fired for that purpose. But when this fire broke out, under a strong gale and snow storm of twenty-four hours' continuance, which had rendered the streets impassable, it was well nigh impossible to drag an engine at all. Some of them could not be got out of their houses; others were dragged a few rods, and then given up of necessity; and those which reached the fire found the nearest hydrant frozen up, and only to be opened with an axe. Meantime, the whole building was in a blaze."

All that is stated as to the origin of the fire is, that a boy lighted a fire in a stove at four o'clock, and half an hour afterwards the apartment was in flames.

The loss of the co-tenants has been very considerable. Tammany Hall

was at one time in imminent danger. The rear part, connecting with the Tribune Buildings, was in a blaze, but the flames were subdued by the prompt and energetic exertions of the firemen.

On the morning after the fire, in searching the ruins for property, a watch and chain, and purse of money, which had been left under a pillow of one of the beds, was discovered. The watch was much injured, but the purse and money were not damaged.

THE LATE EXPLOSION AT ALGIERS.

In our journal of last week we detailed this frightful catastrophe, which occurred at Algiers, on the 8th inst. We now annex a representation of the sad scene, after the explosion, from a sketch by M. Duplan. In the background is shown a portion of the city of Algiers; in the foreground workmen are occupied in clearing away the ruins; to the left is the lighthouse of the port, which is left entire, and commands the ruins of the casemates, where lodged the second and seventh companies of artillery. In the middle of the view is the chamber of the Commandant, M. Pallard, and above is that of the Commissary of the Marine; and somewhat more to the left is the kitchen of Madame Segretier, overlooked by the dwelling of the Admiral's Aide-de-camp.



POWDER MAGAZINE AT ALGIERS, AFTER THE LATE EXPLOSION.

NEW PROJECTED RAILWAYS.

(From Tuesday night's Gazette.)

Railway Department, Board of Trade, Whitehall, March 25, 1845. Notice is hereby given, that the board constituted by minute of the Lords of the committee of Privy Council for trade, for the transaction of railway business, having had under consideration the under-mentioned railway schemes, have determined on reporting to Parliament IN FAVOUR OF the Eastern Counties—Brandon and Peterborough Deviation; West London—Thames Extension; Newcastle and Darlington—and Brandling Junction Extensions; Ashton, Staly-bridge, and Liverpool Junction—Ardwick Extension; Manchester South Junction and Altrincham; Manchester and Birmingham—Macclesfield Extension and Junction Line with the Sheffield and Manchester; Midland Railway—Darfield to Warsborough; Midland Railway—Darfield to Elscar; Midland Railway—Cherit to Horbury; Midland Railway—Oakenshaw to Wakefield; Midland Railway—Ambergate to Crich; London and Brighton—Horsham Branch; Harwich Railway and Pier; Richmond (Yorkshire) Railway; Hull and Bridlington Branch; and Middlesborough and Redcar.

And AGAINST the Dartford and Rumford Eastern Counties—Cambridge and Bury St. Edmund's Extension; West London Knightsbridge Extension; Ashton, Staly-bridge, and Liverpool Junction—Guidebridge Extension; Kentish Coast Railway; Huddersfield and Manchester; Harwich Railway; Harwich and Colchester; and Ipswich and Harwich.

And recommending the POSTPONEMENT until a future period of the Colchester Junction; Harrogate and Ripon Junction; Leeds and Thirsk; and York and North Midland and Harrogate.

C. W. PASLEY.
D. O'BRIEN.

G. R. PORTER.

LLANLLECHYD CHURCH.

This neat church is just on the eve of completion, in the mountainous region of Carnarvonshire. The parish comprises 19,000 acres, and has a population of 5000 persons, consisting of small farmers and quarry-men. The cost of this "humble house of God" will not exceed £1800, of which sum £1400 has been subscribed some weeks since; and it is hoped this attempt to meet the spiritual wants of this portion of the Principality will be crowned with success, and the entire sum shortly raised. The archi-



LLANLLECHYD CHURCH.

itecture of the church is a fair specimen of the Anglo-Norman style from the design of Mr. H. Kennedy, architect, Bangor.

THE LORD MAYOR'S ENTERTAINMENT.

On Monday the Lord Mayor gave a grand entertainment in the Egyptian Hall, at the Mansion House, when about 300 sat down to a sumptuous banquet. Amongst the distinguished guests present were Lord Stanley, the Earl of Lincoln, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Bishop of Llandaff, the Bishop of Peterborough, Mr. Baron Rolfe, Sir H. Pottinger, the Chevalier Bunsen, the Prussian Ambassador, the Buenos Ayres Minister, Sir Felix Booth, Alderman Moon, &c.

After the accustomed toasts to the Royal Family, the Lord Mayor gave "The Health of the Foreign Ministers in this country."

The Chevalier Bunsen, the Prussian Minister, returned thanks, and expatiated upon the importance of maintaining peace, for the benefit of the communities of all the states in Europe. Whilst England maintained her present firm position, in opposition to hostile movements, it was impossible for any nation in Europe to disturb the present amicable state of affairs. (Hear, hear.)

The Lord Mayor then gave the health of her Majesty's Ministers, and complimented them upon the manner in which they had restored the balance between the revenue and expenditure of the country. (Hear.)

Lord Stanley returned thanks for the honour which had been done to himself and his colleagues. In undertaking this pleasing task, he could not help regretting the absence of other members of the Administration, who, he was sure, would have felt proud to have been present on this occasion. The Premier had gone to his family seat in Warwickshire, and the Duke of Wellington had been obliged, also, by the infirmities which age brought upon him, to go into the country during the vacation. But he was happy to say, and he thanked God for being able to say it, that the infirmities of the body were not accompanied by any diminution of the mental faculties. (Hear, hear, hear.) The noble lord proceeded to say that he cordially concurred with his Excellency the Prussian Minister as to the importance of the maintenance of peace. War presented no advantages commensurate with the horrors which it incurred. Apart from all religious grounds of opposition, he believed that it was now generally agreed that the horrors of war should not be wantonly incurred by the nations of the world. (Hear, hear.) The incidents of war were of a terrible and revolting character, which would not be incurred unless under the most stringent occasion. (Hear, hear.) Considering the matter in this light, her Majesty's Government had felt it their duty, whenever a difference of opinion arose with a foreign power, not weakly to yield to the demands of that power, but to ask for those explanations which by the nature of the case could be given; and it had not occurred in any of these cases that they had occasion to desire to seek other means of obtaining what was their due. (Hear, hear.) Whilst seeking to promote a general peace, however, the Government had not neglected to place the resources of the country on such a footing as to enable them to meet at any time any hostile movement which might be made against them. The equalization of the expenditure and revenue of the country was one of the first points of anxiety with her Majesty's Ministers, and the country, by generously seconding and promoting those views, had ably done its duty, and ensured a permanent advantage to their commercial relations and fiscal position. (Hear, hear.) Her Majesty's Ministers, after the success which had attended them in this matter, felt with pleasure that, if at any period, however near, they should be superseded in their official position, they had laid the foundation for a permanent peace, which no country in Europe would heedlessly dare to interrupt. (Cheers.) The noble lord, in conclusion, proposed the health of the Lord Mayor.

The Lord Mayor returned thanks, and then proposed "The Church of England." If true to itself, it must stand. (Cheers)

The Bishop of Llandaff returned thanks.

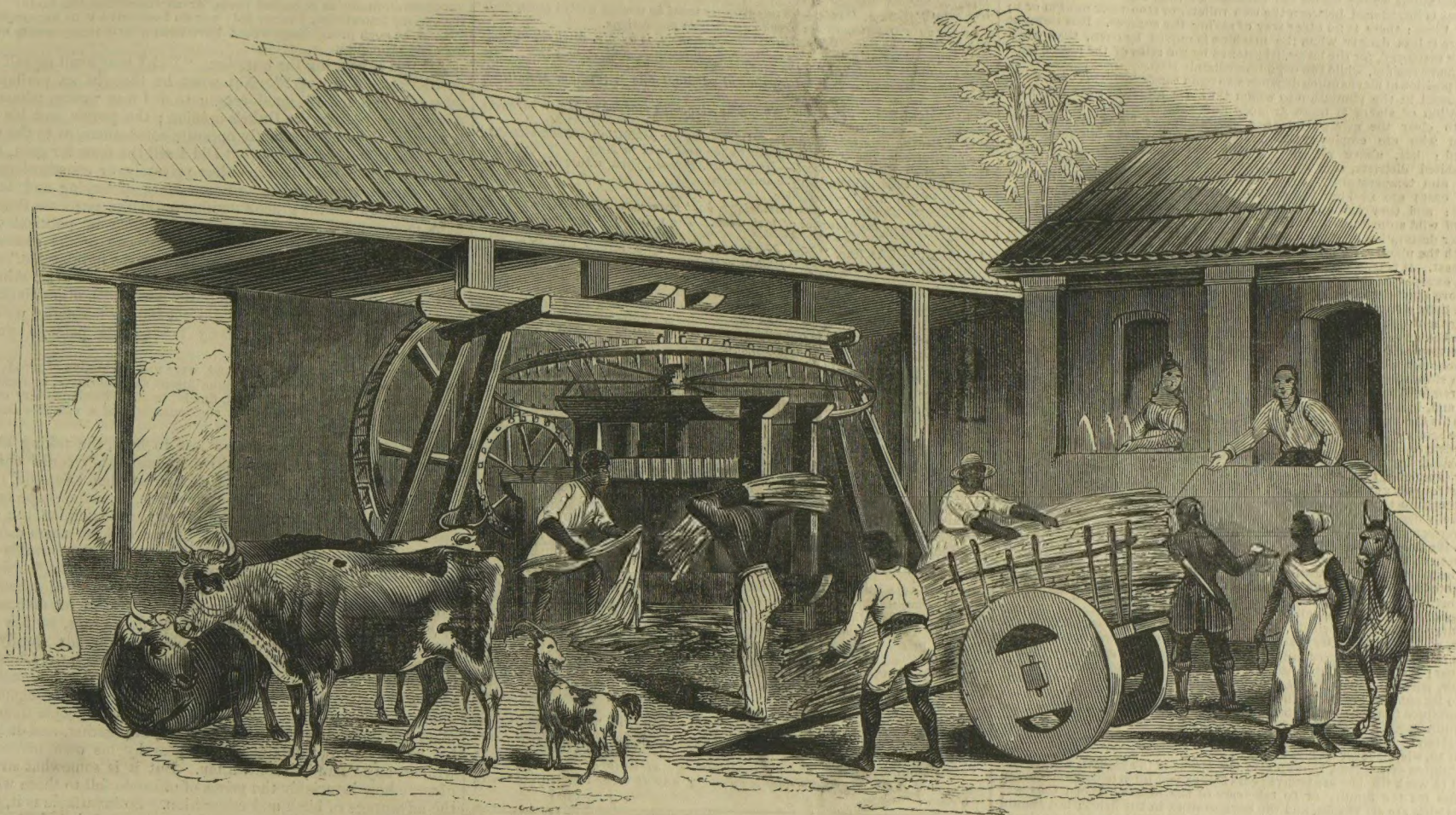
After some other toasts the assembly adjourned to the drawing-room, where dancing commenced, and was kept up with great spirit for some hours.

Father Mathew is wanted in Switzerland. A Geneva journal states that in the canton of Schaffhausen there are three hundred and eighty-seven public houses, being in the proportion of one to eleven houses throughout the canton.

Her Imperial Highness the Grand Duchess of Russia was safely delivered of a Prince on the 10th inst., at St Petersburg. This happy event has been productive of unmixed joy to the Imperial Family. The Emperor appeared for the first time in public a few days after the auspicious occurrence, visiting the theatre in state. The infant Prince is to be named Alexander.

Mrs. Regina Maria Roche, the authoress of the "Children of the Abbey," and other works, died at Waterford last week, at the advanced age of 81. This lady's husband was at one time editor of the *Courier* newspaper.

We believe there is at last a chance of the accomplishment of the great object which for many years has been under consideration—of opening communication across the Isthmus of Panama. Arrangements to effect this important object are in progress.



BRAZILIAN SUGAR MILL.

SLAVE LABOUR IN THE BRAZILS.

The prohibitory duties levied by Sir Robert Peel on the slave sugars of the Brazil, having called public attention to the condition of the slaves in South America, many conflicting statements have been put forth, to show on the one hand the justness and humanity of his restrictions, and, on the other, to depreciate them as partial, and founded on an hypocritical regard for sufferings which have no real existence. Both classes are, to some extent, in error; but the latter most so. The slaves are not so well off as the friends of the planters would have us believe; nor are they, on the contrary, so badly used as the anti-slavery party declare. The following account of the condition of the sugar farms of the Brazil—which present the most complete examples of the cases in question—will show, that the position of the slave, whether it be regarded politically or religiously, is both in principle and practice a bad one; and that, consequently, the Premier has shown a wise discretion in setting his face against it.

The most considerable plantations in Brazil are those devoted to the production of sugar, but a triple utility is demanded from them. Each sugar

estate must have a large forest to furnish supplies of wood for building, fire-wood, &c.; another portion is set aside for the plantation, properly so called; and a third is reserved for the culture of grains, fruits, and other edibles for the sustenance of the persons composing the establishment. Besides these three divisions, small allotments are portioned off for the slaves, to cultivate for their own benefit. Finally, most sugar estates are in this but little cultivated territory so extensive, that the planter has seldom a sufficient capital, or number of slaves, to keep the whole under tillage at one time. Nor would it be his interest to do so; for, in the low state of agricultural science in Brazil, the planter, when once the land is exhausted, makes no attempt to renew its productiveness by artificial means, and therefore abandons it altogether, and sets his slaves to work in clearing and burning the forest to establish a new plantation, letting the old one lie till nature has restored its powers. This operation is called *roçada*. Plantations where there are thirty or forty slaves, and as many horses and oxen, are deemed considerable, but those of the greatest magnitude have not less than fifty or sixty of each.

Such being the field of slave labour in Brazil, we now proceed to describe the labour itself, and the domestic treatment of the labourers.

The slaves are sent to work at sunrise, and at eight o'clock half an hour is allowed for breakfast but in some places the meal is taken before leaving

the house. At mid-day two hours is allowed for rest and dinner, and work is continued till six in the evening; but in many plantations, instead of pursuing their work in the fields, the slaves occupy the time between five and seven, in supplying the horses with forage, and in collecting fire-wood from the neighbouring forests. It is usual when they return from their work, to present themselves to the planter, and wish him "good evening."

The various seasons bring with them many changes in the ordinary occupations of the slaves. During the sugar harvest, for instance, the work is carried on day and night; the negroes relieving each other in gangs, like the watches on shipboard. The harvest takes place from the end of September to the end of October, and during that time nothing is neglected to keep them in good humour and in good health, so that there is at its commencement a great deal of gaiety, and a great deal of uproar; but soon after, excess of labour exhausts their strength, particularly those who have to grind the sugar; and they are often so overworked that they drop asleep in the middle of their occupation; whence is derived the Portuguese saying, "He sleeps like a slave at a sugar mill."

It frequently happens that inattention, arising from fatigue, produces fatal results; sometimes the head, sometimes the clothes of the negro whose duty it is to place the canes between the cylinders, are caught in them, and perhaps



DOMESTIC PUNISHMENTS OF SLAVES, ON A BRAZILIAN SUGAR FARM.

the whole body is drawn in, unless assistance is immediately at hand. In some plantations we see beside the machine, a strong bar of iron, which in such cases is introduced between the two rollers, to stop their motion or to separate them; there is no other way of saving the sufferer. It is thought that there is less danger when the machine is moved by oxen, than when mules are employed, for the latter, frightened by the cries of the negro, turn the mill more rapidly, while the oxen immediately stop.

In the position of slaves much depends also upon the department of agriculture followed in the plantation to which they are attached; for example, the situation of slaves is more arduous and painful where they are required to clear the ground for new plantations or rogas, than that of those who are employed upon estates which have already been cultivated; but, above all, if the new lands are a great distance from habited districts, for there the slaves are exposed to unhealthy climates and temperatures, particularly in marshes. Their habitations in such cases are nothing better than huts temporarily formed of tree branches; and they are subjected to every kind of privation, and the attacks of wild animals, venomous serpents, and mischievous insects.

Another description of slave labour is that of carrying produce, in company with the planter, from the coast to the plantation, or from the interior to the coast. It is true that the irregularity of living to be endured by these *troperos*, exposes them to occasional hardships; but, on the other hand, they enjoy more liberty than their fellows, and are placed on a more equal footing with their owners, on account of being obliged to share with them the difficulties and dangers of the journeys, which are sometimes formidable, from the beaten roads in Brazil being few, and only occurring between considerable towns. The most trustworthy and capable of a large proprietor's slaves are sent with cattle to grazing grounds (*fucendos de crias*), which are often situated at great distances from home. These shepherds being so entirely removed from the eye of the master, enjoy more liberty than their fellows, and, in return for it, seldom betray the trust which is reposed in them. It is the ambition of most of the field-slaves to become *vaguerios*, and to be sent away with the cattle to live in *campos*.

We next come to the condition and treatment of Brazilian slaves. The planters, generally, favour marriage between their slaves; for they know by experience that it is the best means to attach them to the plantation, and the strongest guarantee for their good conduct. Nevertheless, there are many exceptions to this rule; for often the manners and morals of the slaves are fearfully degraded by the example of the master. The girls are married when fourteen years old, and the men at the age of seventeen. The wives assist in the field, and the young couple have a piece of ground given them (in addition to the garden), on which to build a cabin. They are also allowed more time to work on their own account. The possession of the whole plot thus allotted to the slaves causes an amelioration in their condition not met with in many other countries where they are employed. Indeed, wherever the forms of the Roman Catholic religion are strictly observed, the negroes have a large proportion of leisure time, on account of the number of feasts and holidays, which they are always allowed to employ for their own especial benefit. The saints' days observed in Brazil absorb no fewer than a hundred days in the year; consequently, it is not uncommon to see a slave a man of some substance, possessing pigs, fowls, and sometimes a horse, or mule, which he is able to let out at a profit. Sometimes they acquire a sufficient sum by the sale of produce from their gardens, and other resources, to purchase their own manumission. In that case, or when a slave dies—so entirely is the ground given to him by his master, his own—that he may dispose of, or bequeath it to, whomsoever he pleases.

The children of negroes, though also the slaves of the planter, are seldom required to work till they are twelve years old, except upon occasions to wash vegetables for the family, or to take care of the beasts. When they get older the girls are set to spin, and the boys to work in the fields; but should a young negro evince a predilection for any particular trade, he is put to learn it, that he may afterwards exercise it upon the plantation. This increases his chance of freedom, if he be prudent and industrious, for he can employ his spare time to much greater advantage than ordinary slaves.

All this, it must be confessed, exhibits the bright side of the picture; but a dark shade is cast upon it by the severity and frequency of corporeal punishments to which Brazilian slaves are subjected. Although the law professes to punish crimes, yet it leaves the correction of minor offences to the master, nominally restricting the quantity inflicted to the degree of the offence; but most of the proprietors are beyond the reach of the law, and exercise a despotic power. Indeed punishment seems never absent, for the overseer (*feitor*) urges the slaves to work whip in hand, and drives them out of the house in the morning like a herd of cattle, superintending their labour during the whole day by the aid of the degrading, unhumanizing whip. If within reach of public authority, the slave, on committing a great crime, is punished by it; but for drunkenness, laziness, or intoxication, the master takes that office upon himself—for the duty of *feitor*, or driver, is rather to urge the negroes to labour than to punish them for faults. The gravest offences are visited with flogging, for which purpose the culprit is fastened to a post or block (*cepo*) fixed in the sugar house, and the lash applied upon his bare back. For minor faults he receives a proportionate number of *palmadas*, or slaps upon the palm of the hand, with a sort of wooden bat or *custici*. It is seldom that a negro is corrected, except in the presence of the whole of the slaves, for the sake of example.

Our cut shows an ordinary scene of domestic punishment, less dreadful than those we have described, but not the less injurious to the poor creatures whose lot it is to endure them. Although it may be impossible to preserve an efficient discipline amongst a large body of slaves without some kind of punishment, yet its frequent application has always been found to deteriorate from their value and usefulness; for, if it be true that a bad servant requires the most correction, it is also true that the more he is punished the worse he becomes: and thus a complete reciprocity between cause and effect is established.

The worst feature of slavery we have purposely kept out of view—namely, the trade carried on in the human species; the procuring negroes, in the first instance—the kidnapping—the horrible transit in densely crowded and confined ships—and the sale in the public markets—by persons, too, who profess Christianity. These considerations and facts kept in view, it is not too much to say that efforts, in common with those made by the Government, ought to be exercised by many "who profess and call themselves Christians," while others are directed to the improvement of less enlightened, and therefore less guilty, communities.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

SUNDAY, March 30.—Low Sunday.
MONDAY, 31.—Beethoven died, 1827.
TUESDAY, April 1.—Expedition to the North Pole sailed, 1818.
WEDNESDAY, 2.—Mirabeau died, 1791.
THURSDAY, 3.—Anniversary of the actual Crucifixion, A.D. 33.
FRIDAY, 4.—St. Ambrose, Bishop of Milan, died, A.D. 397.
SATURDAY, 5.—Goldsmith died, 1774.

HIGH WATER at London-bridge, for the Week ending April 6.

Monday.	Tuesday.	Wednesday.	Thursday.	Friday.	Saturday.
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TO CORRESPONDENTS.

- "A Constant Reader" should see the article in our present number on Brazilian Sugar.
"Tacitus," Cardiff.—Gibbon's "Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire," 4to. edition, 6 vols., contains 71 chapters. The single volume edition contains the entire work.
"L. C."—We are not aware that the lives of horses can be insured in any office.
"Zeta."—We do not find any record of the siege of the Tower of London in the reign of Queen Mary.
"M. Hedgecock" is thanked for his letter, which, however, we have not space for.
"Subscriber," Melton Mowbray.—Frank Stone's picture of "The Heart's Misgivings" is taken from Taylor's "Philip Van Artevelde."
"C. S." shall be replied to next week.
"Kremlin" wishes to ascertain whether the Tsar Kolokol, or King of Bells, at Moscow, has been recast; when and by whom. Kremlin believes it was lifted out of the pit in which it lay, in July, 1836.
"A Constant Reader," Norwich.—There has not been, as yet, any ceremonial laying of a foundation-stone of the New Houses of Parliament.
"A Correspondent" who asks several questions as to the origin of the present Church of England Service, should consult a little work, just published, entitled "Elementa Liturgica."
"T. E. E." Brighton, should apply to his bookbinder.
"A Subscriber" suggests the great public benefit that would arise from the names of streets being more conspicuously placed than at present, an improvement worthy of the attention of the metropolitan authorities.
"X. Y. Z."—The name of the lady who has no arms, yet executes needlework, is Wright.
"Sonnet to Madame Tussaud, by A. C."—Ineligible.
"Brown," Coleford.—No.
"A Subscriber," North Shields.—Miss Linnwood died on Sunday, March 2.
"H. R.," Halifax.—The address of M. Thom is Inverary, N.B.
"L. L. W.," Birkenhead.—Perhaps, on a future occasion.
"A. B.," Texas lies in 95 deg. W. longitude, and 30 deg. N. latitude.
"W. W."—The wagon, &c., will be liable to toll in either case.
"J. R."—Tickets of admission to the festival of the Sons of the Clergy, may be had of Messrs. Rivington, St. Paul's Church-yard.
"P. R." should apply to a respectable broker, and invest the sum of money named in the Funds.
"I. O."—Mr. Pulser, printer, Strand, deals in autographs.
"O. M. J."—We know nothing of the picture lottery in question.
"F. L.," Tewkesbury.—The price of David's "Symphonie" is about 15s.
"G. P. R." Isle of Wight.—We have not room.
"M. X."—Aird's "Self-Instructing French Grammar."
"W. H."—Lutworth, should remit 1s. to our office.
"Inquisitor."—A coroner's jury are sworn before viewing the body.

- "The Charade and the Bark, by A. B."—Ineligible.
"A Subscriber."—There is no direct law for controlling the speed of railway trains.
"J. G." Fareham, Hants.—The newspaper must be posted within seven days of the date of publication; free to all British possessions.
"A. Z."—"The Fatalist," published anonymously, is by Mr. Michell, author of "The Truaded."
"A Civilian" is thanked for the hint.
"Unquamarah."—The British Consul at Boulogne is William Hamilton, Esq.
"A Constant Subscriber," Lincoln.—The atrocious murder of Mr. Weare was committed in 1824.
"G. T."—Pictures sent to the Royal Academy for exhibition are submitted to a committee. The exhibition opens in the first week in May.
"M. J. B.," Margaret-street.—It was Mr. Brunel, jun., whose life was endangered by swallowing half-a-sovereign.
"A. Q."—"Z. S. S."—Ineligible.
"Canab."—The Oxford and Cambridge boat-race was described in each of the editions of our journal of last week. The price of "London in 1842" is 1s.
"G. T. G."—The line, "Men are but children of a larger growth," is by Dryden. The meaning of "Dining with Duke of Humphrey" is not dining at all.
"Stage-struck Ignoramus."—There is no perfect representative of Irish characters at present on the stage. Apply to the manager of a theatre.
"W. C. L.," Bloomsbury.—We do not engrave portraits of murderers.
"Ignoramus."—Curling is a national game of Scotland, played on the ice, by sliding from one mark to another, great stones, of irregular hemispherical form, with an iron or wooden handle at top.
"A Subscriber."—We have received a packet of sketches from the artist sent to Madrid expressly for our journal; and some of the subjects will appear in our next.
"A Constant Subscriber" should send a specimen of the waltz.
"Anne Ignoramus."—The passage quoted does not appear to need illustration. The address of Sir John H. is Hawkhurst, Kent.
"F. Maceroni."—We have not room for the suggestion.
"W. B.," on Early Spring.—Ineligible.
"E. T." Stenenton, should apply to the Actuary of the Savings Bank, St. Clement Dane's, Strand.
"Three Constant Readers" will find their questions respecting the Easter and Passover days just passed, very fully answered in an able paper on the "Ecclesiastical Calendar," published in the "Companion to the Almanacs" for the present year.
"J. W. C.," a Cornishman.—Our statements were derived from Lysons's "Magna Britannia," whose account is borne out by Norden, Borlase, and other competent authorities. In regard to the quantity of water, it has been suggested to us that our correspondent may never have seen the stream during a wet season. "Tywardreth" should be Tywardreath, and "Powden," Powder—the errors being obviously the printer's.
"A Subscriber," Ipswich.—The "coin," of which a drawing is sent by our correspondent, is a Nuremberg token of the end of the 17th century, issued by Hans Krawinkel, specimens of which are very numerous. The legend on one side is generally some apothegm, inculcating correctness in accounts, &c.
"E. S. D.," Halifax.—The meaning of "clock before Sun," in the almanacs, may be thus explained.—A clock shows mean time, the Sun apparent time: the difference between them is owing to the Earth moving at different velocities in an elliptical orbit, and consequently, arriving at the meridian at one part of the year before twelve o'clock, and at other times after twelve o'clock.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, MARCH 29, 1845.

The little political interest to be found in public affairs, has been this week totally suspended, and as the present affords nothing of this kind for discussion, some degree of attention has been attracted to a document rife with a political interest drawn from the past. We allude to a letter published in an evening paper, by the Duke of Newcastle; it is called forth by a recent discussion in the house of Commons, on a motion made by Mr. Williams, the member for Coventry, for an enquiry into a purchase made some twenty years ago by the noble Duke, of an estate, the property of the Crown. Why such an old transaction should have been raked up for enquiry after the lapse of so many years, and the succession of so many Governments, just when the son of the Duke of Newcastle happens to be the official chief of the department, by whom all such purchases and sales on the part of the Crown are managed, is more than we can explain; but if there was any motive less defensible than a zeal on behalf of the public interests, the display of it has done everything except to raise the hon. member who brought the matter forward, in the opinion of the house. Never was a charge insinuated, rather than made, more completely refuted, and to the credit of Mr. Hume we should state that he was evidently ashamed of the accidental part he took in the business. As the sale of the land by the Crown took place about the time Lord Lincoln was imbibing the "humanities," as a school-boy careless alike of office and its toils, no reflection could possibly be made upon him; as the fair value of the land was demanded by the Crown, and paid by the Duke of Newcastle, we do not see what there was to complain of in this part of the case either. A proper vigilance in such matters is a very commendable quality in those who represent us, but a little tact might enable them to exercise it without being either impertinent or personally offensive. The standard of public morality is not raised by establishing, on every occasion, the inference that all public bargains are jobs, and both the parties to them sharper—on one side betraying the interests of the people, and on the other, overreaching in order to take care of their own. In this case, a charge that never ought to have been made, was instantly and completely refuted. There was no need of any further defence, and though the Duke of Newcastle has rushed into print, and the papers, about it, the interest of his letter does not arise from the "Hafod estate," but from very different matters. It is a voice from the past, which conveys at once a lament and a lesson. It is the lament of an old man over the changes of events, circumstances and opinions, in which he could not mingle; it is a lesson to all the possessors of wealth and power not to hold themselves entirely aloof from the movement of human affairs, which is always onward, whether they join it or not, unless they prefer to be at last, what the Duke of Newcastle says he is, an isolated being, of no party, of no influence, identified with no actual interest, having, in common with those moving in the same sphere, scarcely a single principle or a single opinion. "When I began life," says the Duke in a tone of regret, which, unavailing as it is, is not without a touch of the pathetic, from its evident earnestness, "I had the fairest prospects before me; in a political point of view I possessed great power." That power is gone—and why? The Duke says, all around him changed, deserted, and betrayed him, their party and themselves; but the true reason he seems never to have perceived—that his "great power" was founded on a great wrong and a gross injustice, which in the very nature of things could not endure; a wealthy, active, and intelligent people would not submit to the dictation of Dukes as to who should tax and govern them, and swept away the "power" he so much regrets. Is England less powerful, less prosperous at home, less respected abroad—is her public credit more doubtful now than then? By no means; it is the machinery of her Government less manageable or less efficient? Not at all; there was never a House of Commons in which a prime minister had more power on all important questions than the present one. When a whole world follows one course, and an individual chooses to take another, it seems to us something like blindness or arrogance for the one to accuse the many of having gone wrong. Did a doubt never cross him that the world might have taken the most practical path, while he had persisted in one impossible to tread, and which he finds, too late, has landed him in nothingness and "mere oblivion?" There are some other points of the Duke's letter worth a little examination for the sake of their connexion with an interesting period, the events of which are now matters of history; like many men of strong feelings he expresses himself strongly, but with little reflection; and consequently he involves himself in contradictions, the latter end of his story forgetting the beginning; thus he says:—

Though in the eyes of the Reformers I was regarded as an obnoxious

boroughmonger, still my power and influence were indubitable. I ask—Did I avail myself of my position to do wrong? Did I sell the seats for gain, or dishonestly traffic with them, either privately or politically? Did I ever act unconstitutionally as regarded them, or as concerned the State? I aver that, to my knowledge, I never did; nor do I conceive it to be possible that I could, as such proceedings would have been utterly repugnant to my feelings and principles.

All this is begging the question. "Did I ever avail myself of my position to do wrong?" Not what he thought so, perhaps, but what the nation had good reason to feel was wrong, whatever it might have been in the Duke's opinion; and the people and his grace happened to come to exactly opposite conclusions, as to the wrong and right of political ethics. "Did I sell the seats for gain, or dishonestly traffic with them, either privately or constitutionally?" Perhaps not, again, in the ordinary sense of buying and selling; but, granting that his grace's nominees did not purchase their seats by a money price, did they not pay for them by political dependence on him? This we apprehend was one of the elements of that "political power," which he says was "indubitable." They spoke, and voted in the Legislature as he pleased, and no otherwise, this being the true interpretation of the phrase, "political influence." But even this assertion, that he did not sell his boroughs, we cannot reconcile with what immediately follows the passage we have quoted:—

My boroughs then, on the one hand, were not productive of profit; whilst, on the other, they entailed prodigious losses and sacrifices, by feeding the interest, by contests, petitions, and, finally, by their Parliamentary confiscations, when I was robbed, without compensation, of a valuable consideration, probably, not short of £200,000.

Now, if they were a positive loss to hold, the taking of them away must have been as positive a gain; they could only have been made a loss of hundreds of thousands when swept off, by having been a source of commensurate profit, in some shape or other, while in possession. In whichever way we examine the Duke's assertions, we cannot understand them; both of them cannot be true, and taking the view of the matter most honourable to his grace, that he did not make any profit of his boroughs, we must think his loss of £200,000 by the "confiscations" of schedule A., is one of imagination only. Again, as a proof of his disinterestedness and superiority to ordinary influences, he says, he has "never yet obtained any situation of emolument for his family," forgetting, apparently, that his son is, at this moment, the Chief Commissioner of the Board of Woods and Forests. Lord Lincoln is an able and active Minister; the Board, under his management, is doing more for the health and recreation of the people than all the other departments of the Government put together, and it is possible he may have "obtained" the post by his own merits alone, without any "family" solicitation. But it is somewhat strange to observe how invariably the prizes of office do fall to those who have the advantage of birth and connection. So invariable is it, that we believe the "family" is the certain cause, and the talents quite an accident. To the poor Duke's complainings of the expense he has incurred by filling the office of Lord Lieutenant of the County, and the heavy fees he paid on being invested with the Order of the Garter, we have nothing to say, except this—that such things are honours that may be declined, not imperative duties that must be performed; having sought the first, and not having resolutely declined the second, it is rather ungracious to speak of the mere vulgar cost of them; surely there are things for which, to a peer of the realm, the more or less of coin is not a standard to measure by. The whole letter is a curiosity; it is a manifesto from one of the last of a race of politicians, which will soon become as extinct as the fossils of the primitive formation. Were one of the stony anomalies of the Museum to take life, and walk into the midst of the thriving farmer's stock, noisy with trivial cackle, or busied only for their daily food, the exhibition would scarcely be more incongruous with "external circumstances." With a High Church Lord Chancellor breaking down the legal distinctions between Christian and Jew, and a Tory Prime Minister abolishing "protection," endowing Maynooth, and complimenting Joseph Hume on the value of his public services, what could the companion of Eldon, and the honoured of George the Third do?

Nothing but that which he has done—complain—complain of all—of his party that has left him, of his order that deserted him, and lastly, of the world, that to all these complaints will not give one grain of sympathy.

COURT AND HAUT TON.

WINDSOR, THURSDAY EVENING.—(From our own Correspondent.)—This morning, her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent left Frogmore House, at nine o'clock, and proceeded to the Castle to breakfast with her Majesty, his Royal Highness Prince Albert, and the Grand Duchess Stephanie of Baden, to take leave of her Royal Highness the Grand Duchess of Baden previously to her Royal Highness's departure from the Castle, where the Grand Duchess has been sojourning, on a visit to her Majesty and the Prince Consort since Tuesday last. Her Majesty and his Royal Highness Prince Albert, attended by their respective suites, took equestrian exercise this morning, proceeding from the Castle up the Frogmore-road, returning through the Great Park. Her Royal Highness the Grand Duchess Stephanie of Baden, attended by the Baroness de Sturmeder, and the Baron Roth de Schrackenstein, took her departure from the Castle this morning before luncheon. The infant Royal Family were taken for their accustomed airing in the enclosures and pleasure grounds attached to the Castle, during the day. Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent, accompanied by the Countess Wratislaw, and attended by Lady Anna Maria Dawson, will join the Royal Party at dinner at the Castle this evening.

DEPARTURE OF HER MAJESTY FOR THE ISLE OF WIGHT.—Her Majesty, who has purchased Osborne House, leaves Windsor to-day (Saturday), and intends to pass a short time at that residence.

PRINCE ALBERT AND THE DUKE OF ROTHESAY.—It may not be generally known that his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales is Duke of Rothsay, as well as Duke of Cornwall, and which it would appear from the following incident that recently occurred, was either unknown to or forgotten by his royal father. One morning, a card was presented at Buckingham Palace to his Royal Highness Prince Albert, upon which was engraved "The Duke of Rothsay," and an audience solicited. His Royal Highness seemed puzzled and repeated the name several times, saying he did not recollect ever having heard of such a nobleman, but he consented to give the required audience, and ordered the Duke of Rothsay to be shown in, when he was agreeably surprised by the entrance of the heir apparent, attired in full Highland costume, attended by her Majesty's piper. The above amusing incident was productive of considerable entertainment to the royal circle.

NEW ANTHEM BY PRINCE ALBERT.—On Wednesday a new anthem, composed by his Royal Highness Prince Albert, was rehearsed for the first time in St. George's Hall, Windsor. The Queen's private band and the choir of St. George's were in attendance. Her Majesty and the Prince came into the Hall, and his Royal Highness, after the first trial, picked out a few errors in the instrumental department. The anthem, on being tried over again, proved to be perfect. The Queen then commanded it to be played over once more, and was much delighted with the composition and the manner in which it was performed. This anthem, entitled "Out of the deep have I called thee," is acknowledged by a number of the first rate judges who were present to be the *chef-d'œuvre* of the Prince's compositions.

DEATH OF THE HON. WILLIAM FRASER.—The Hon. William Fraser died suddenly last week. Mr. Fraser was habitually subject to gout, and had not been well for some short time past; but he was out on the very day he died, preceding his death. He was one of the Vice-Presidents of the Scottish Hospital, of the foundation of King Charles the Second. Mr. Fraser was the son of the late, and brother and heir presumptive to the present Lord Saltoun.

DEATH OF LADY LESLIE.—Lady Leslie, widow of the late Hon. Sir Charles Leslie, Bart., brother of the Countess of Devon, and the Hon. and Rev. Sir Henry Leslie, Bart., chaplain in ordinary to the Queen and Prebendary of Exeter, died last week. Her ladyship had survived her husband twelve years.

DEATH OF THE COUNTESS OF PORTMORE.—The above countess died on Thursday week, at Bath, after a short illness. The deceased countess was in her 66th year, and was second wife of the late Earl of Portmore, a title now extinct.

MARRIAGE IN HIGH LIFE.—On Monday the marriage of Miss Barberina Farquhar, third daughter of the late Sir Thomas Farquhar, Bart., and Lady Farquhar, with Mr. Mark Milbanke, eldest son of Mr. and Lady Augusta Milbanke, and nephew of the Duke of Cleveland, was solemnised at St. James's Church, Westminster, in the presence of a numerous circle of the relatives and friends of both families. The Rev. Archdeacon Hamilton officiated at the ceremony.

POSTSCRIPT. EXECUTION OF JOHN TAWELL.

(From our own Reporter.)

Yesterday (Friday), the above unfortunate but notorious man, convicted at the last Assizes of the murder of Sarah Hart, otherwise Lawrence, underwent the extreme penalty of the law in front of the Aylesbury Court-house, adjoining the gaol. But for misrepresentations which have appeared respecting the past life of the criminal, any further enlargement of the subject, save the details connected with his last moments, would, perhaps, be unnecessary; but, in order to set our readers right, we endeavoured, as far as possible, to obtain all authentic information.

Since the period of the unhappy man's condemnation, letters have been received from all parts of the country by the Editors of several of the metropolitan journals from persons, who, in undertaking to supply the public with facts connected with his past career, actually gave circulation to some very aggravated statements, not having any real foundation. The statements given in evidence at the trial regarding his conviction for forgery, and his subsequent transportation, were substantially true; but not so many of those gratuitous accounts before alluded to. The prisoner's father was a native of Norfolk. He was not a member of the Society of Friends, as stated, but of the Church of England, in which he brought up his children, the convict, John Tawell, included. At an early age, however, the latter evinced a preference to the religious precepts inculcated by the very well conducted body with whom he latterly identified himself, and was declared a member. On the conviction for forgery, he, however, was expelled. Since his return to England he made many fruitless attempts to again become a member of the Society; his repeated rejections were, it may be necessary to add, in a greater degree owing to his immoral practices (which were not wholly unknown to members of the body) than to the conviction for forgery, which we have reason to believe would have been forgotten and forgiven had he for the future led a proper life.

The unfortunate man's brother, William Tawell, resides at Eriscoe, near Colchester, in Essex, and is a woollen draper by trade. Regarding him we have nothing further to say than that he is much respected by his fellow-townsmen, amongst whom he has resided many years. This gentleman, as well as his wife and children, are, we are informed, members of the Established Church, but we can safely say that they never had any connexion with the Friends, whose principles had never been professed by any other of the family excepting the convict. The many statements set afloat respecting the death of the unfortunate man's partner are gross misrepresentations, no such person having been ever in existence. Some other well-informed individuals have located him in various places throughout England which he had never entered, and at intervals which formed part of the time spent by the wretched man in Sydney.

The last fact of importance connected with him, was the farewell visit of his wife and daughter in-law, on Wednesday; since which time he appeared altogether to be divested of earthly consideration, and resigned to his unhappy fate. His sleep on Thursday night was somewhat, according to the officers who had attended him, broken, and not so calm as on other occasions. During the day he employed himself in writing and praying. In the evening he was visited by his brother, who remained with him for about half an hour. The interview was almost entirely devoted to the perusal of some documents relating to family matters, and business transactions of the unfortunate man. Previous to leaving the town, Mr. William Tawell expressed his strong belief in his brother's innocence, and added, in reply to some questions regarding the probable confession, that his brother would not make any; his words being, "What has he to confess, when he is innocent?" It may be added, that this belief did not, so far as we at least could learn, extend beyond the members of his family.

At four o'clock on Thursday the convict was served with his last dinner, which consisted of some boiled beef, potatoes, and apple tart, and of this he partook, under the circumstances, somewhat heartily. After the meal he was joined by the Rev. Mr. Cox, the Ordinary, who continued to use his best endeavours in administering that spiritual consolation so much needed by persons placed in the melancholy position of the prisoner. On arriving in Aylesbury on Thursday evening, it became known that the execution was fixed to take place at eight o'clock on the following morning, instead of twelve, as agreeably to the system adopted in nearly all the provincial gaols throughout the kingdom.

On speaking to the Governor of the Gaol, several of the reporters were informed that the High Sheriff for the county had written to state that the members of the press should not be admitted. Letters of remonstrance were then forwarded to Mr. Tindal, the Under Sheriff, but without success. In their anxiety to discharge their duties, several called on that gentleman, at his residence, near Aylesbury Church, but without being fortunate enough to see him. From what transpired it would appear that this strange conduct on the part of the Sheriffs was owing to some request of Tawell's friends; and we may add, that it was severely censured by all the respectable inhabitants of the town, who considered that no deviation from the uniform practice should be made in Tawell's case, or in that of any other rich man convicted of such a cold blooded murder. Much difficulty was also felt in obtaining authentic information, and this was also owing to the obstructions which proceeded from head quarters.

It is but justice to the Governor of the Gaol to state, that there were no grounds for imputing any disrespectful conduct to him, as he acted agreeably to the orders which he had received.

So great was the interest evinced by several respectable individuals to witness the execution, that many were obliged to put up with very meagre accommodation at about double the London price. "Such things don't always happen in Aylesbury!" said several. Medical gentlemen, with many phrenologists, arrived with the hope of being allowed to take a cast of the head and other interesting portions of the body, but—no. Albeit many and earnest entreaties were made, the Aylesbury officials were inexorable. A Birmingham gentleman urged the great good that would result to society if he were only allowed to place a little clay on the head and face of the unfortunate man when dead. The officials' characteristic reply was, "The operation would disgrace his hair!"

The County magistrates, not anticipating a large attendance, did not make any preparations for the preservation of the peace, further than the securing the services of the few men comprising the Borough police, who were placed under the command of an inspector.

The preparations for the execution had been completed the day previous. The gallows had not been in requisition since a Thomas Bate was hung for murder on the 31st of March, 1837.

Calcraft, the Old Bailey executioner, arrived at the gaol on Thursday evening, and there remained till his important duties had been discharged.

As early as five o'clock on Friday morning workmen were engaged on the balcony in completing the scaffold, and in a very short time all was in readiness. The morning was remarkably disagreeable; the wind blowing and a misty rain falling without much intermission until about half-past seven o'clock, when the weather cleared up. At that time, about 5000 persons had assembled in the large space of ground fronting the building, which is capable of affording accommodation to five times that number; so that the attendance was much smaller than might have been anticipated. A formal application for admission, on the part of the reporters, was once more made in the morning, but without success.

Precisely at a quarter before eight o'clock, the crowds were startled by the sudden appearance on the scaffold of the unfortunate culprit, in company with Wall, the principal turnkey, and Calcraft, the executioner, the Sheriff, the Ordinary, and other officers, being stationed at the door leading to the fatal drop. The unfortunate man was habited in the dress he wore on first entering the gaol; kept his eyes directed heavenwards, and in the fervency of his devotion, appeared to be wholly unconscious of the presence of the thousands who had assembled to witness his ignominious death, and who, we have the most sincere satisfaction in stating, conducted themselves in a most becoming manner; an unbroken silence being preserved throughout. Indeed, all appeared to be more or less affected, while many shed tears. The windows of the more respectable houses near the melancholy spot were closed.

After the rope had been adjusted, the unfortunate man knelt down on the scaffold, and for the last time, and offered up a momentary prayer. On turning his eyes downwards, however, and perceiving the numbers assembled beneath him, he rose hastily and resigned himself to his fate with much composure.

Calcraft then drew a cap over his face, and in the next moment the fatal bolt was withdrawn. The unfortunate man struggled most violently for about five minutes, when life became evidently extinct. The body remained suspended for one hour and five minutes, after which Calcraft, assisted by two of the turnkeys, cut it down inside. Shortly afterwards, the remains having been placed in a shell, were removed for interment to the Infirmary-yard, being the portion of the establishment set apart for such purposes. The crowd then very quietly dispersed.

CONFESSION OF GUILT BY THE PRISONER.

Shortly afterwards we were informed by the Governor of the Gaol that the prisoner had left a full confession of his crime in care of the reverend Ordinary, with the understanding that none of it should be made public save the ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF HIS GUILT, not only of the murder of the unfortunate woman, but of an unsuccessful attempt of affecting his fiendish purpose in September. This, our readers will remember, was alluded to in the luminous charge of Mr. Baron Parke. We were further informed that the wretched man had assigned as his reason for committing the crime for which he yesterday suffered, fear of a exposure of his immoral connexion, and not any wish for getting rid of the pecuniary claims entailed upon him by his unfortunate connexion with his victim.

We were also favoured with the following document from the Governor, who, in every way possible, afforded the members of the press that information which their non-admission to the gaol had otherwise withheld from them.

"John Tawell passed the whole night (Thursday) with almost unabated firmness, only giving way to a few tears and occasional emotions. He listened with becoming attention to many portions of the Scriptures, and read many himself, joining with propriety in observations arising from them, and not only did he listen to and unite in the prayers that were offered up for him, but he several times retired into his sleeping cell, and, falling on his knees, prayed aloud most fervently and penitently. His firmness never forsook him."

Late on Thursday night the unfortunate man took his last farewell of the several officers by whom he had been attended since his committal.

It may be proper to state that the sacrament was not administered, as so doing is not in accordance with the forms of the religion which the wretched man had so doggedly persisted in identifying himself with. Neither was the prison bell heard nor the funeral service performed, agreeably to the formalities of the Church of England. The procession to the scaffold moved from the condemned cell, passing through some other apartments leading to the Court-house.

A very characteristic letter was, on Tuesday, written by the prisoner to Mr. Sherriff, the governor, who, as well as Mrs. Sherriff, has, throughout Tawell's imprisonment, manifested towards him the most humane consideration. The following is a copy of the letter in question:—

"Aylesbury, March 28, 1845.
"Dear and worthy friend—Mr. Sherriff,—It is not less my duty than great pleasure, as well as from feelings of deep and sincere gratitude, that I can thus offer my poor but unqualified thanks to both thyself and dear Mrs. Sherriff, for the continued and marked kind attention which has been shown so uniformly to myself and my dear and valuable family and friends since my unfortunate confinement in this prison, by allowing us all the access which urbanity and philanthropy could suggest, under such circumstances, to the participants in this their severe affliction."

"And now their deeply distressing probation is nearly concluded, I have to desire that this may be accepted as the most grateful acknowledgment, both on account of myself and them."

"I can for myself desire that the Divine blessing may largely rest on thyself and Mrs. Sherriff and young family, and my own valuable family will lastingly have to re-echo this poor, but sincere, benediction of thy faithfully but afflicted friend,
"JOHN TAWELL."

Superscription—"Mr. Sherriff, Aylesbury."

"From J. Tawell, 25th March, 1845."

The date inside the letter had originally been 25th March, as on the outside, but had been altered by the prisoner to the 28th.

The last act of the prisoner was to leave a small amount of money, with a written request that a shilling or two should be given to one, and a shilling or two to another of those who had been his fellow prisoners. This will, of course, be complied with by the Governor.

So great a sensation has not been excited generally throughout the country by any similar event for many years past. Among other proofs of this interest it may be mentioned that some of our Liverpool and Manchester contemporaries had their emissaries on the spot to despatch a report of the event by the first down train from Tring after the execution was over.

Along the line to town the common inquiry at every station was, "How did he die? How did he die?" and great satisfaction was expressed on hearing that he had made a confession of his guilt.

NEW PROJECTED RAILWAYS.

(From the Gazette of yesterday Evening.)

Railway Department, Board of Trade, Whitehall, March 27, 1845.

Notice is hereby given, that the board constituted by the minute of the Lords of the Committee of Privy Council for trade, for the transaction of railway business, having had under consideration the under-mentioned railway schemes, have determined on reporting to Parliament in FAVOUR of the Birkhead, Manchester, and Cheshire Junction; Chester and Birkhead Extension; Blackburn and Preston—Alterations, Extensions, and Branch; Coventry, Bedford, and Nuneaton; Eastern Counties—Finsbury Extension; Huddersfield and Sheffield Junction; Lancaster and Carlisle—Deviation in parish of Kendal; Lancaster and Carlisle—Branch to Newcastle and Carlisle Railway; Lancaster and Carlisle—Scotforth to Slyn; Newcastle upon Tyne and North Shields—Tynemouth Extension and New Quay Branch; North Union Extension to the river Ribbles; Sheffield and Rotherham—Branch to the Sheffield and Manchester Railway; Norwich and Brandon—Extension into Norwich; York and North Midland—Bridlington Branch;

AGAINST the Liverpool and Manchester—Rainford and Liverpool Branch; Chester and Preston Brook; Eastern Counties—Thames Junction and North Woolwich—Great North of England—Clarence and Hartlepool Junction—Extension and Branches; Grand Junction—Friar's Park to Dudley Branch; London and Gravesend, via North Woolwich.

And recommending the POSTPONEMENT until a future period of the Liverpool, Ormskirk, and Preston; Southport and Euxton; Preston Brook and Runcorn Junction; Epping; Grand Junction—Potteries Branch.

DALHOUSIE.
C. W. PASLEY. G. R. PORTER.
D. O'BRIEN.

RETURN OF THE QUEEN DOWAGER.—The Queen Dowager is expected to return to town from Witley Court on Tuesday next. The Directors of the London and Birmingham Railway Company have recently constructed a new state carriage for the use of her Majesty, which will be brought into use for the first time on that day.

THE NEW BISHOP OF ELY.—Dr. Ireland, the Dean of Westminster, has been appointed to the vacant see of Ely.

SUDDEN DEATH OF MR. GILL, THE CHEMIST.—On Thursday an inquest was taken at the Silver Cross, Charing-cross, before Mr. Bedford, on the body of Mr. John Gill, aged 70, who, for many years, had carried on the business of a chemist in Whitehall-place. It appeared that the deceased was attended by Mr. Lawrence for an affection of the chest. On Monday morning, after breakfast, complaining of his chest, Mr. Woodward, his assistant, advised him to send for Mr. Lawrence. The deceased declined, remarking that he should be better shortly. About 12 o'clock, the assistant, finding the deceased to be in great danger, sent for Mr. Lawrence, who promptly arrived, but by that time life was extinct. The jury returned a verdict—"That the deceased died from natural causes."

ACTION FOR LIBEL.—At Kingston Assizes, on Thursday, an action was tried, Solomon v. Lawson. The plaintiff is a merchant, residing at St. Helena, and the defendant is the printer of the Times newspaper. The declaration stated, that the plaintiff was in the habit of supplying ships which went to St. Helena with fresh water. It added, that the ship Moffat, amongst others, had stopped at St. Helena, and had been watered by the plaintiff. It stated that an illness occurred in the vessel, and it then charged the Times newspaper, by two letters signed "Nauticus," with having published that the water supplied by Mr. Solomon was supplied from water-tanks of a poisonous character, and that that was the cause of illness under which the passengers were suffering when the Moffat arrived at London, to the injury of Mr. Solomon's character and business. The defendant pleaded, first, not guilty; then, that the water was unwholesome; and then there was a plea setting out that the passengers had been ill, and that their illness had resulted from the state of the water supplied by Mr. Solomon. After a long trial, the jury found a verdict for the plaintiff, damages £500.

A BUTLER CHARGED WITH STEALING £1000 WORTH OF PLATE.—At MARLBOROUGH-STREET, on Thursday, William Jagger, butler, in the service of a maiden lady, Miss Fanny Watkin Wynn, of No. 104, Piccadilly, was brought before Mr. Hardwick on suspicion of having robbed his mistress of a quantity of silver plate, of the value of £1000. The prisoner was taken into custody at a public-house in Dover-street, and when told of the charge, replied that he did not steal the plate, he had only pawned it. On searching the prisoner at the station-house, forty-six duplicates were found upon him, all of them relating to valuable property which he had pawned, and which he had taken from the plate chest. The property consisted of large quantities of spoons, forks, candlesticks, tureens, dishes, teapots, &c., upon which the different pawnbrokers had lent upwards of £350.—Mr. Hardwick asked the prisoner if he had any answer to make to the charge?—The prisoner said he was guilty.—At the request of the police the prisoner was remanded for a week, in order to make full inquiry.

EPITOME OF NEWS—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

The German Universal Gazette says, that the British Ambassador had formally refused to grant any passport to the Ambassador from the Khan of Bokhara for England, as the Queen would not receive him at her Court.

A painting of the Nativity, by Rubens, is said to have been lately discovered by an English tourist in the church of one of the rural communes within the arrondissement of Montreuil. It had been long concealed behind a confessional.

Mr. Wm. Barrymore, well known as the celebrated pantomime author and stage manager, died at Boston, in America, on the 16th ult.

The Edinburgh papers announce the death of Mr. Alexander Blackwood, of the firm of Blackwood and Sons, the proprietors of Blackwood's Magazine. Mr. A. Blackwood was about 32.

A Berlin paper, of the 18th, states, that the Empress of Russia, accompanied by the Emperor, will visit Berlin in May, and proceed to Tegeruse for the recovery of her health. It is expected that the Emperor will bring with him the Count de Nesselrode. The same letter mentions a report that the King of Prussia intends the manufacturing and mercantile classes of his subjects to have representatives in the provincial Diets.

A man was executed at Rome on the 7th inst., by the guillotine for the murder of a pilgrim from Bavaria, for the purpose of robbing him. To heighten the punishment and as an example the criminal's head was exposed on the scaffold for the space of an hour. An unusual number of persons were present to witness the death of this hardened sinner, who had committed numerous crimes anterior to that for which he suffered.

The celebrated painter, Horace Vernet, has arrived at Marseilles, en route for Algeria, to study on the spot his intended painting of the battle of Isly.

Mr. John Drummond Hay, son of the late Consul-General at Tangier, is to succeed his father in that important office.

A letter from Havre, dated March 24, gives the following account of murders and suicide, arising from the new game law. A person was observed by two gens d'armes with a double-barrelled fowling-piece, firing at game on the banks of the Caen River—the period allowed by law having expired. They approached to take him into custody. He addressed them saying, "You know me well, I am an old carabineer; if you approach ten paces I will shoot you both." Not minding him, or perhaps not believing him, they advanced. He fired one barrel after the other, and shot both dead; he then reloaded his piece, put it to his mouth, and blew his own brains out.

The first cargo of Java sugar, with a certificate of origin, has just arrived from Batavia, imported by Messrs. Thornton and West, which, under Sir Robert Peel's new act, will come in at the duty of 23s. 4d. per cwt. instead of 35s. 9d., the rate fixed last year.

News has been received from Cowes, of the loss of the Siam, East India-man, bound from Calcutta to London, with a valuable cargo. The last land made was the Lizard; her keel and rudder were knocked off and drove ashore. A lad belonging to her was drowned, and also a man from Freshwater. She is close in with the cliffs, and has twelve feet water in her hold. There is no chance of getting the ship off.

Letters from Stuttgart state that a slight shock of an earthquake was felt at Dornstetten on the 17th. The Neckar has overflowed its banks in several places, and considerably damaged the works on the railway at Esslingen.

Mrs. Harriet Downing, the authoress of the "Remembrances of a Monthly Nurse," in "Fraser," and the "Monthly" magazines, and of many poetical pieces and stories in the periodicals and annuals, died last week at Chipping Norton.

Her Royal Highness Princess Amelia Augusta, consort of his Royal Highness Prince Johan, of Saxony, was delivered of a Prince, on the 15th instant, at Dresden. Her Royal Highness and infant were, according to the last accounts from that city, progressing favourably.

Letters from Constantinople of the 7th inst. mention that a serious mutiny had broken out among the Albanian recruits who had recently arrived in that city, in consequence of their pay having been withheld. The mutiny was at length put down; but not until several of the regular troops had been wounded. Five of the mutineers were ordered to receive 500 strokes of the bastinado upon their feet.

The new pier, at Gravesend, is now finished, and was on Monday morning thrown open to the public.

COUNTRY NEWS.

PURCHASE OF MANORIAL RIGHTS BY THE CORPORATION OF MANCHESTER.—The Corporation of Manchester have completed negotiations with Sir Oswald Mosley, Bart., for the purchase of the manorial rights of the town, which are estimated to be worth £218,755. The average proceeds for the last few years have been £9214 16s. 8d., arising from tolls, properties, &c. The council have agreed to pay Sir Oswald Mosley, the sum of £200,000 for the whole of his manorial rights and properties, and so mortgage them for the interest of the amount, which is to be paid at the rate of three-and-three-quarters per cent. per annum. They have also agreed to pay off the principal by instalments of not less than £4000, and of not more than £6000 per annum. By this arrangement it is calculated that the tolls, chief rents, &c., will realise £1000 a year more than the sum required to pay the interest. How far these anticipations may be realised is very doubtful. It is worthy of remark, however, that in the year 1808 the proceeds of the Manchester manorial rights were £2800, whilst in 1844 they amounted to upwards of £10,000.

EXECUTION AT READING.—On Saturday last Thomas Jennings was executed in front of the New Gaol, Reading, in the presence of nearly 6000 persons. It will be remembered that the criminal was tried before Mr. Baron Platt, at the Berkshire Assizes, on the 3rd instant, for the wilful murder of his daughter at the village of Thatcham. The evidence adduced was so clear that the jury, without hesitation, returned a verdict of guilty, but, strange as it may appear, they recommended him to mercy. The learned judge, however, in passing sentence, held out not the least hope of mercy in this world. Since his trial the reverend ordinary has been most unremitting in his care of the condemned criminal, who, to the last, steadfastly maintained his innocence. That he perpetrated the horrible crime no reasonable being could doubt, notwithstanding he persevered in saying, up to Friday, that "his Eleazer had been murdered by a girl, who saw him put away a bottle containing arsenic, which he had procured in order to destroy some mice." The greater portion of Friday was spent by the chaplain with the criminal, with whom he prayed most earnestly, during which time Jennings frequently sobbed aloud, yet no confession was made by him that we heard of. On Saturday, at an early hour, the reverend chaplain visited the wretched man, and remained with him until the last moment of his earthly career. At twelve o'clock the prison bell commenced to toll. About five minutes past twelve o'clock the mournful procession reached the top of the gaol, headed by the chaplain, who read, in a most impressive manner, the burial service. Jennings followed, with his eyes turned heavenwards. In the course of a few minutes the fatal bolt was drawn, and the wretched man was soon dead. The body having hung the usual time, it was cut down and taken inside the gaol.

THE MURDER IN DERBYSHIRE AND SUICIDE OF THE MURDERER.—Last week we mentioned that Joseph Hawksley, farmer, of Whittington, a village two miles north of Chesterfield, was apprehended at Sheffield on suspicion of having murdered Mrs. Green, at the latter place, on Thursday, the 13th inst. Mrs. Green was discovered dying by the neighbours. On the arrival of the prisoner in Chesterfield, he was brought up before E. G. Maynard, Esq. The prisoner was remanded till the following Wednesday. On that day the inquiry was proceeded with. A number of witnesses were examined, whose testimony made out a case of grave suspicion against the prisoner. After a hearing, which lasted four hours, the prisoner was remanded till Monday week, to afford time for further inquiries. We now supply full particulars, so far as they have transpired in evidence. The deceased, a Mrs. Elizabeth Green, was a widow, aged 68, who resided in a farm-house, situated about the centre of the straggling village of Whittington, and close to the separation of the old roads leading from Chesterfield to Eckington and Sheffield respectively. About twelve months ago the son-in-law of the deceased, Joseph Hawksley, came to live in a part of the house which was partitioned off. Hawksley having neglected to pay his rent, quarrels arose between him and the deceased. The former was heard to threaten her, and she was subsequently found with her throat cut, and died of the wound, which had been inflicted by a razor. From an examination of the premises it appears that the deceased had been cleaning the hearth, as a pail full of dirty water was standing on the right side of the fire-place. The front of the hearth was clean, and one of the stones of the floor was wet, a rubbing stone lying upon it. Between these and a carpet there were several large drops of blood, and a razor lying close beside them. The false curls worn by the deceased lay at some little distance, and a piece of ribbon, spotted with blood, and similar to that upon her cap, was also found on the floor. Blood was traced to the back door, on which there were a number of spots of blood, and marks of five bloody fingers. The key and the bolts were also marked in a like manner. The drops of blood were traced down the causeway, across the grass-plot to the gate, on which there is a mark, as though a bloody hand had been laid upon it. Mr. Boddington, surgeon, arrived at the spot about a quarter past ten o'clock on the morning in question; but Mrs. Green had ceased to exist some time before his arrival. At the close of a long hearing before the magistrates, the prisoner was committed to take his trial for murder. The examination terminated at four o'clock, shortly after which the prisoner was taken back to the prison. At six o'clock he was seen alive by the wife of the keeper, but at a quarter to seven, on Mr. Hollingworth (the keeper) entering the cell, he found him hanging by his neck-cloth to one of the hinges of the door. He was immediately cut down, but life proved to be extinct. At the close of the examination the prisoner had declined to make any defence, but requested the magistrates to come down to the prison on the following evening, when, said he, "I will tell you all about it, and prove that I am innocent." It is now evident that this request was a mere feint to divert attention from his purpose.

The tunnel which is in the course of construction on the line of the Chester and Wrexham Railway, near to Doleston, about five miles from Chester, gave way last week.

THE EASTER HUNT WITH THE ROYAL STAG HOUNDS.

The merry good horn
At early morn
Sings, Up and away!
Sings, Up and away!
With the huntsman's halloo
And the game just in view
'Gins the Sport of the Day—
'Gins the Sport of the Day.

BURTHEN.

All near old Windsor's Castle Towers
Thus do we spend the Springtide hours.

Old Berkshire Ballad.

Contrary to general foreboding, the hunt with the Queen's Stag-hounds, on Easter Monday, proved a very spirited affair. It was expected to have been a dull business, not only from the extremely heavy state of the country for miles around Windsor, arising from the sudden breaking up of the long-continued frost, but from the great quantity of rain which fell throughout the day preceding, Sunday.

The morn of Monday, however, broke most favourably for the lovers of the chase, and long before the appointed time for the meet on Stoke Common, not less than between four and five hundred well-mounted horsemen (including a great many of the officers of the regiments stationed at Windsor, Hampton Court, and Houn-



EASTER HUNT WITH THE ROYAL STAG HOUNDS—THE MEET AT STOKE COMMON.

low, and several from the metropolis) had assembled on the heath. Many of the neighbouring gentry and their families, in their carriages, were also congregated in the immediate vicinity, while the pedestrians could not have amounted to less than between three and four thousand. The celebrated clipper, Rob Roy, was selected for the day's sport, to the great disappointment of those, but of those only, who were mounted upon second or third-rate cattle; for upon all former occasions none but the A 1's have been enabled to live with the Scottish chieftain. Rob Roy, upon being uncarted on the common, shortly before twelve o'clock, took away in the direction of the vicarage at Fulmer, doubling to the left towards Hedgerly, and again back to the Common, where, upon being met and turned by the foot people, he went away in right earnest, at a tremendous pace, talling off several of "the half-guinea hacks," to Fulmer Bottom, up the high meadows skirting Bulstrode Park to Hedgerly, where he doubled to the right, crossing the turnpike-road, and away to Stony Dean, down the Three Households, into Chalfont St. Giles's, where he took soil for nearly a quarter of an hour before he was whipped out of a large pond, thus giving a little welcome breathing time to many of the almost exhausted nags. Rob then again went away, by the Vetch on Chenies and Latimers, crossing Shepperton Common, to King's Langley, in Hertfordshire, where he again took refuge in a pond, at the back of the church, and was there taken, after one of the most gallant runs this season, of upwards of two hours and three-quarters, over at least 26 miles of heavy country. Upwards of forty well-mounted horsemen were well up at the finish. The distance gone over, from point to point, "as the crow flies," was at least 20 miles. The run throughout was at a racing pace. The hounds, which went 12 miles to the meet, and were 32 miles from the kennel at the take, returned to Ascot the same evening, having traversed during the day upwards of 70 miles.

HAYMARKET THEATRE.

Mr. Planché, to whose able pen we are indebted for so many pleasant dramatic versions of our old nursery stories, has this year forsaken the repertory of the Countess D'Anois for the columns of "Lempriere's Dictionary," and brought out a classical burlesque, in every way calculated to foster the taste for the Greek drama, called up by the revival of "Antigone." As it has lately been the fashion here, as in France, for two authors to write together—an excellent plan, by the way—so this last entertainment may be described as concocted by Messrs. Planché and Euripides: the former of these gentlemen is well known; the latter was a Greek dramatist, who might be considered, from his numerous productions, as the M. Scribe of his time, and whose plays were represented "for the first time on any stage," at the Theatre Royal, Athens, about two thousand three hundred and twenty-five years ago; and, from their success, he appears to have enjoyed considerable popularity in his day.

The burlesque of "The Golden Fleece" is in two parts. The first is described as "entirely original, founded on the third and fourth books of 'The Argonauts'.

tics," a poem, by the late Apollonius Rhodius, Esq., principal librarian to his Egyptian Majesty, Ptolemy Evergetes," and entitled "Jason in Colchis." This portion of the piece, which is acted on the raised Greek stage, as in "Antigone," contains the early history of Jason, connected with his expedition to Colchis, his courtship of Medea, and his final departure with the fleece, to the great sorrow of Aetes—a proceeding admirably shown in an effective *tableau* at the end of the part, where the theatre disappears, and the Argo is seen, manned by the Argonauts carrying off the treasure. The second part is denominated "Medea in Corinth," and is taken, pretty accurately, from the "Medea" of Euripides. The action, as before, passed on the Greek theatre; but there is also a concluding effect, representing the departure of Medea from Corinth, in a chariot horsed by dragons.

Nothing can exceed the correct taste displayed in putting this extravaganza on the stage; and the same praise may be extended to the acting, which was in every respect perfect. The name of Mr. Planché is a sufficient guarantee for the writing being up to the mark.

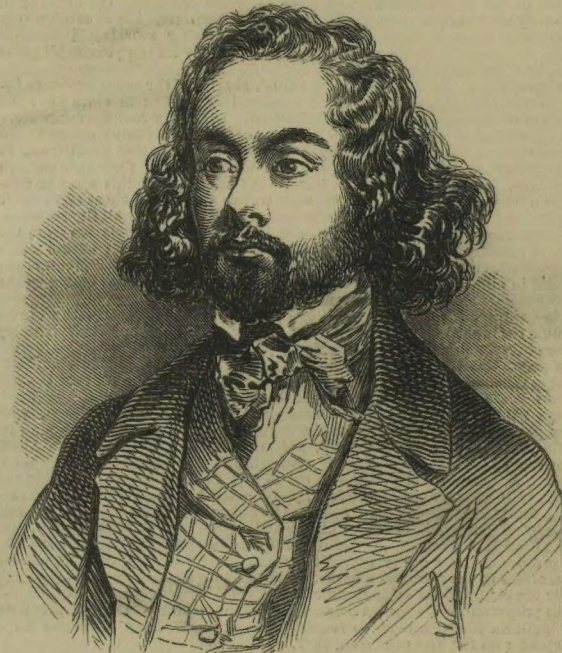
Jason, "married but not settled, exceedingly classical but very far from correct," was played with much piquancy by Miss P. Horton; and Medea was ably sustained by Madame Vestris, according to the approved style of dishevelled tresses and severe costume. Mr. James Bland had the important charge entrusted to him of personating two kings, Aetes, King of Colchis, and Creon, King of Corinth. According to the bill, he had, "by particular desire, and on this occasion only, most obligingly consented to be twice the King he usually is at this festive season." And those who know what Mr. James Bland's Kings are, may imagine how doubly great he was upon the present occasion. To Mr. Charles Mathews the audience were indebted for the *Chorus*, and, by representing the entire body of "sixty male voices," he rendered fifty-nine perfectly unnecessary. He was most amusing; and his continual interruptions, comments, and explanations, were as quaintly conceived as they were excellently rendered. A rapid song, of which he did not know the words, was droll from that very circumstance, and created great laughter. Altogether, the "Golden Fleece" was entirely successful. Some parts of it may be a little too fine in their allusions for a general audience to take up; but, as a whole, it is one of the best things Mr. Planché has ever done.

Our illustration represents the *tableau* at the close of the first act.

BIOGRAPHY OF FELICIEN DAVID, AUTHOR OF THE SYMPHONIC ODE, "THE DESERT."

The great master, for so all Europe now admits him to be, a sketch of whose biography we are about to give, affords another proof of the difficulties which genius ever has to encounter on its road to fame, and of the certainty of the reward which sooner or later attends the artist who is worthy of it. Felicien David was born in 1810, at Cadenet, a small village near Aix, in the *mid* of France. At the early age of four, he showed strong musical

talents, and, provided only with the limited means his family could afford, and fifty francs a month furnished by a rich old uncle, who hesitated a long time before he consented to give even that little sum. In 1830 he saw the great metropolis, and, having laid one of his compositions before Cherubini, director of the Conservatoire, he was admitted at once as a student in that magnificent establishment. There he worked hard, and became a master of harmony in the classes of Fetis, Lesueur, and Benoit. He took the great Beethoven as his model, and produced pieces, not borrowed from that distinguished master, but full of his inspiration and science. All this time he was struggling with limited pecuniary means, and even the distress of that situation was aggravated by his uncle suddenly withdrawing the monthly payment of fifty francs, which had induced Felicien to leave home. None but a man of genius could have borne up against the sorrows that now assailed him on every side: sickness of body and of mind, poverty and all its ills, at once bore heavily on him; but he struggled to the last—still working hard at his profession, and paying his daily way by the sale of some trifling compositions.



M. FELICIEN DAVID.

In 1834, Felicien David, seduced by the promises of that collection of knaves and fools, called St. Simonians, at Paris, quitted the Conservatoire to enrol himself in their ranks. He was declared the composer of the society, and all the hymns which attracted so much notice in their meetings at Menilmontant were produced by him. The society was soon after broken up; the force of humbug could no longer sustain it, and the members were dispersed to seek fortune all over the world. Many of them now hold distinguished places, and consequently no prejudice can be entertained against David, for having, under the influence of an excited imagination, associated with them.

Our hero's lot was cast for Egypt, and we find him, in 1833, visiting every part of that remarkable country, and filling his mind with the impressions which are now produced in his great work. He extended his researches into Syria, and visited in succession Gaza, Jaffa, Jerusalem, St. Jean d'Acre, and Sidon. He next went to Constantinople and Smyrna, and paid a flying visit to all the Greek Isles of the Levant. He then returned to Egypt, and studied once more the immense and lonely desert on which he was to frame the great work that was to give him immortality. In 1833, he returned from the East, and, after a short residence in Provence, he came to Paris, where he at once set to work, and published a series of Oriental Melodies, with the hope of making his name known to the public, and of preparing the way to more serious compositions. But his melodies had no success—a patron was wanting—his name was unknown in the market; and, as if to drive him to despair, the greater part of the edition and the plates of the music were burned at the great fire which destroyed the Italian Opera in 1833, and the houses adjoining, in one of which his papers were deposited. David was now so weighed down by misfortune that he was forced to accept the hospitality of M. Tourneur, at whose country seat he lived for three years, very rarely coming to Paris, and spending all his time in studying the harmonies of Beethoven.

In 1838 and 1839, two grand symphonies of David's were executed at the concert-rooms of Valentine and Musard; but they did not take with the public, as he failed to adopt the usual resource of unknown composers, and force himself into notice by means of puffing and paid paragraphs. He still persevered, and, supported by a few kind-hearted friends, he obtained at last permission to give a concert at the Conservatoire. He then determined to compose the "Desert," and having procured the words from M. Collin, of Marseilles, a gentleman who accompanied him in his wanderings, he created, in the space of three months, this sublime composition. The object he had in view was to convey, with the aid of harmony and melody, the impressions produced on his mind by the immensity and solitude of the desert. He sought to describe the passing of a caravan, the repose at night, and the destruction of the travellers by the Simoon. All this he has accomplished in a magical manner. Nothing can be more sublime, more terrific, and affecting. The Symphonic Ode combines all the force of Beethoven, the wildness of Weber, and the delicacy of Cimarosa. The "Desert" was performed at the Conservatoire on the 6th of Dec. last year. It was at once successful, and Felicien David was rewarded for all his pains and sufferings. Like Lord Byron, "in one day he was famous." The Desert was afterwards performed at the Italian Opera House. That great theatre was crowded to an overflow by all the rank, talent, and musical public in the metropolis. The Ode was again crowned with success; and it is already placed in harmonic archives alongside the masterpieces of Beethoven.



SCENE FROM THE EXTRAVAGANZA OF "THE GOLDEN FLEECE," AT THE HAYMARKET THEATRE.

indications. He expressed the greatest delight on hearing the piano or the violin; and he sang with so much sweetness and precision, that his family and friends looked upon him as a little wonder. When he was six years old he was heard by a distinguished professor, M. Garnier, who at once pronounced him to be an inspired child; and he recommended his friends to look after him, and give him the best instruction. The family of Felicien, after removal to Aix, succeeded in placing him in the seminary of St. Charles, where he commenced his regular musical instruction at the

age of seven, and in a short time surpassed all the students of the same class. From thence, at a ripe age, he was transferred to a College of Jesuits, where his musical education was perfected, not in slight or frivolous composition, but in the study of the great masters—of Mozart, Beethoven, and Cherubini. At sixteen he left the Jesuits, and was placed by his family in a solicitor's office; but the desk and his dispositions did not harmonize; he abandoned it, and took refuge as second violin in the orchestra of the theatre of Aix. After experiencing many difficulties in provincial life, Felicien David came

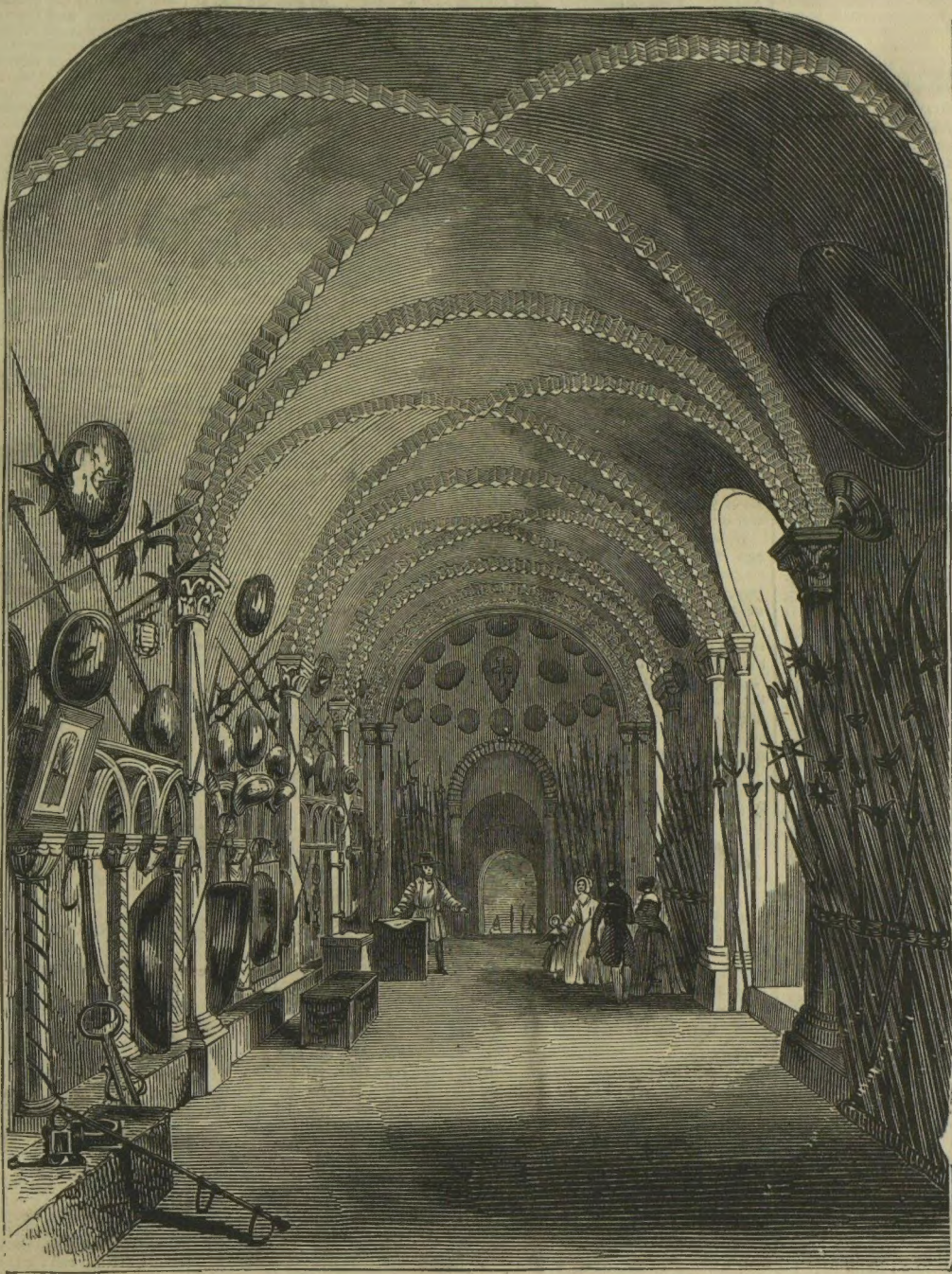


EASTER MONDAY AT THE TOWER.

The Spanish Armada came to show
Itself as a stout and a valiant foe,
But little the boasters seem'd to know,
Or even to guess,
What good Queen Bess
Had in store for their final overthrow.
Here does she ride
In her Majesty's pride,
As she rode in her victory long ago!

Although Government liberality has not yet rendered the Tower one of the "gratuitous exhibitions" of the metropolis, the fine old prison-fortress was thickly besieged on Monday by curious visitors; and, probably, during the day, there were not less than a thousand persons admitted to the Armouries alone, at the reduced charge of 6d. The increase of visitors, since the reduction of the admission money in 1838, has been tenfold, which shows, at least, an inclination in the public to know something of the ancient costume and weapons of their ancestors. At present, we shall confine our illustration to the Elizabethan Armoury, in which the ancient weapons in use previously to the general adoption of the musquet among our troops may be examined. This collection was formerly called the Spanish Armoury, from the fable of its having been formed from the spoils of the Armada. The name has, however, for some time, been changed to the more appropriate title of Queen Elizabeth's Armoury, most of the weapons contained in it being of the period of her reign or of those immediately preceding. It is, altogether, a very interesting collection; its foreign character is referred by the author of an ingenious treatise on ancient armour, to the anxiety of Queen Elizabeth to maintain the hardy character of her people, joined to the desire for warlike expeditions to foreign shores which seemed to actuate the whole British nation in the days of Raleigh and Essex and Sydney; for which purpose many improvements and importations from Italy and Spain were effected in the fashion of armour and warlike instruments of this period.

Queen Elizabeth's Armoury was formerly in a building opposite the south-western corner of the Horse Armoury. It is now removed to the White Tower, entering which, through a passage formed in the eastern wall, (here 14 feet in thickness, of solid masonry) the visitors pass into the Armoury, the apartment assigned by tradition as the prison of Sir Walter Raleigh; the dark closet adjoining is said to have been his sleeping room. But the place no longer bears the appearance of a prison-lodging, nor can we look upon it as it was when Raleigh paced its floor to and fro. The inscriptions yet existing on the wall have, however, been carefully preserved: they were principally written by prisoners confined here during Mary's reign, for their share in Wyatt's conspiracy. Facing the coved, or entrance end of the room, is a deeply recessed arch, where the presiding genius of the place appears in all her majesty, Queen Elizabeth herself, in costume, said to be a fac-simile of that worn by her on going



EASTER MONDAY.—THE ELIZABETHAN ARMOURY, TOWER OF LONDON.

to St. Paul's to return thanks for the delivery of her kingdom from the threatened invasion of the Spaniards. Her horse is led by a page in the costume of the period; and by her side is an archer of the guard, wearing a brigantine jacket and morion.

The chief contents of this Armoury, including many varieties of lances, long swords, pikes, musketoons, battle-axes, &c., were formerly shown to wondering visitors as the spoils of the Spanish Armada. "Down even to the times of our excellent great-grand-fathers and grandmothers, people used to go and look at the various instruments of torture here exhibited, and lift up their hands and eyes in amazement at the cruelty of the Spaniards, and the wonderful escape we had all had from those devilish instruments." Later researches have satisfactorily shown these to be chiefly of English manufacture.

A systematic view of the contents of this interesting room would occupy nearly as many columns as we have lines to spare; we shall, therefore, merely premise that the collection consists chiefly of weapons of the 15th and 16th centuries. Among the more interesting individual objects are two very curious swords, which hang against the wall, covered with black rust, and one much eaten away: they are said to have been used by crusaders, in the Holy Wars. Next is the Morion Star, or Holy-Water Sprinkle, a ball of wood, armed with iron spikes, and fixed at the end of a long pole; a weapon in use among the infantry from the time of the Conquest till the reign of Henry VIII., whose "walking-staff" it was reputed to have been.

On the floor of the Armoury are some of the most attractive relics, as the Heading Block on which the Lords Balmerino, Kilmarnock, and Lovat were decapitated on Tower Hill, in 1746; the Heading Axe, reputed to be the one used in the execution of the Earl of Essex, in the reign of Elizabeth; some curious shields and crossbows, targets, &c. We must not, however, forget the Thumb-screws, or Thumbikin, an instrument used to extort confession, and applied by compressing the thumbs between two bars of iron by means of the screw, which was then made fast by a lock. Beneath them is a veritable specimen of Spanish ingenuity—the "Iron Collar of Torment," taken from ye Spanyard in ye yeare 1588; and the Cravat, an iron instrument for confining at once the head, hands, and feet: it was also called "the Scavenger's Daughter," or "Skeffington's Daughter," a name said to have been derived from its inventor, one Skeffington.

Probably, the most circumstantial guide to the Tower Armouries will be found in Mr. Hewitt's little volume, published by authority of the Master-General and Board of Ordnance, at the Tower.

There are, in the above collection, some arms of much higher antiquity than the Elizabethan period; but, a few of the more rare descriptions of weapons are models only: these are, in all cases, distinguished by their staves being painted red.



EASTER MONDAY.—THE GREAT ZOOLOGICAL GALLERY, BRITISH MUSEUM.

EASTER MONDAY AT THE BRITISH MUSEUM.

A motley crowd was gathered there
As ever throng'd a show—
Many as worthy of a stare
Themselves, I well do trow,
As those strange things they came to see,
Things pick'd up throughout Christendee!

Foremost among the more intellectual recreations of last Monday, must rank a visit to the British Museum; and, if any evidence were wanting to stimulate the liberality of Parliament in voting grants of money for the improvement and increase of this grand national treasury of Nature and Art, the living stream which passed, for hours, continuously through the saloons in Great Russell-street, on Easter Monday, would surely have convinced the most obdurate economist; and even William Cobbett, who sneered at the Museum as a heap of "dead insects," would have been moved by so many thousands of the classes whose interests he claimed more especially to advocate.

The British Museum, as all our readers may recollect, has been for several years in course of rebuilding. A considerable portion of the principal front, already engraved in of our journal has been completed, and, by its handsome appearance, bids fair to disarm many of the abusers of the architect's design. As the new building is internally finished, the Museum contents are re-arranged in the respective apartments; this "transition state" being far preferable to the closing of the Museum for some months, for an entire re-arrangement.

Among the noble saloons already finished, the Great Zoological Gallery, represented in our engraving, proved the greatest attraction to the holiday folks of Monday. This vast gallery was formerly occupied by Minerals, but is now appropriated to Birds and Shells: the room is 300 feet long, and 50 wide, and contains one of the richest ornithological collections in Europe. The cases are glazed with large sheets of plate glass, with very numerous brass bars: the smaller Birds are arranged on a new plan, on box-shelves, each bird having a close back-ground, so as to show its outline distinctly, and relieve its colours; and the Shells, occupying several table-cases, are exhibited on black velvet, which gives them admirable relief.

The birds, unquestionably, form the most popular attraction in the Museum; and, probably, this was never more evident than on Monday. Then, how interesting it was to watch the visitors, alike wonder-struck with the gigantic emu and the diminutive humming-bird; whilst others might be seen busy among the cases of Shells—"the glory of the sea," as they have been poetically termed.

The Ornithological Department is admirably arranged. The system observed is that of Temminck, whose generic names are, in most cases, adopted, with the specific names of Linnaeus, and the English synonyms of Latham. Thus, we have in the first division of cases, the Rapacious birds, as vultures, eagles, falcons, buzzards, kites, and owls; next are the Perching-birds, subdivided into the goat-suckers and swallows; the honey-eaters and wheatears; the crows and finches; and the parrots and woodpeckers; to these succeed the Gallinaceous birds—pigeons, turtles, pheasants, partridges; then the Waders, comprising the ostriches, trumpeters, storks; and, lastly the Web-footed, as the flamingoes, swans, and ducks. Ranged to correspond with the cases of the birds, and placed opposite them, are other cases of their eggs; thus completing the systematic illustration.

We must pass rapidly by the more minute, yet scarcely less wondrous Shells, to say a few words on the Portraits, which line the upper walls of the Gallery. They are considerably more than 100 in number; and, though of various grades of merit, deserved better housing than the attics of the Museum buildings, wherein they lay hidden for several years; till, at the suggestion of an eminent printseller of the metropolis, the pictures were removed from their dusty depository, and now form a goodly muster of sovereigns, statesmen, heroes, and men of science; in short, of almost every variety of character; and they are, we believe, the largest collection of portraits in the kingdom. The execution of many of them is but indifferent; there are others which are exceedingly curious, and some unique. Great part of them came into the Museum from having belonged to the Slonean, Cottonian, and other collections, which now form the magnificent library; and others have been the gifts of individuals. A very interesting catalogue raisonnée of these portraits was printed in the *Times*, in the year 1838.

The Northern Zoological Gallery is devoted chiefly to Reptiles; to apes and monkeys; rats and mice, porcupines, hares, and squirrels; and to the spiny-rayed and anomalous fish. On the floor of this gallery, are cases filled with Insects, Crustacea, Corals, Starfish, Sponges, &c.; and, against the walls, above the cases, are ranged the larger sword-fish, sturgeon, and conger.

Of course, our descriptive journey might be extended through many saloons and columns; but, enough for the present, in illustrating the nucleus of attraction during the recent Easter visit.

EASTER HOLIDAYS.

AMUSEMENTS OF THE PEOPLE.

Although the previous cold weather of the month—"the wintry aspect of this freezing March"—had originated a sort of prophecy that this Easter would be a North-Easter, yet the Boreas did not come, but, on the contrary, a most genial moderation of temperature, with a fine dry sky, and a pleasant stream of sunshine, began this festive week, and made the famous holiday, Monday, a pourer of gladness in the hearts of the people. A fine burst of busy joy has been waking eyes in fair and field, and animating the soul of city and of suburb; and although upon such high days the flood of loosened merriment will sometimes overflow its banks, and pass the bounds of staid decorum, yet it is a cheerful thought that the amount of enjoyment in which the million revel, with an annual delight, is generally innocent, and in recent years has become rational and even instructive in its pleasure. This is not more owing to the improved regulations of our fairs, and of the limit of extravagance and duration in the quips and sports which accompany them, than to a general direction of public curiosity in the metropolis to the more intelligent and elevated order of amusement which is to be found in the many remarkable exhibitions of London, and which afford varied information and entertainments to thousands who prefer the mental pabulum they offer to the attractions of the booths of Steyne, or the more rollicking gambolings of Greenwich, with all the laughter-rousing adventures of its One-tree-hill.

It is a pleasant and refreshing recreation to lounge through the exhibitions in an Easter week, and watch the various emotions and excitements of the emancipated holiday-makers. It also presents to the journalist a fair opportunity of giving an annual—and, if we take in Christmas-time, a biennial—notice of the exhibitions themselves, which, as they are continually ministering to public amusement, deserve to be re-mindfully kept before the public attention. We have this week, therefore, availed ourselves of a ramble with the million; and let us now see into what comfortable quarters of recreation we have borne them company.

Foremost as place of popular resort, is

THE POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION,

wherein the intellectual and instructive so greatly predominate over the merely curious; and it indicates a rising intelligence and thirst of knowledge on the part of the people, to find them flocking to the regions of mechanical contrivance, and the progress of science and the arts. Doctor Ryan's chemical lectures are daily opening wider to the public mind the beautiful and interesting field of inquiry in which he has engaged, while it has been humorously said of the directors of the institution, that they only bring forward Professor Backhoffner, that he may bring the people *oftener back!*

Amid the thousand objects which attract and distract the attention of the holiday crowd in this place, they will, while in the act of enquiring and learning, still have their quiz, joke, remark, and repartee; and the natural sallies of buoyant minds buzz merrily through the place, and keep its very knowledge alive in an atmosphere of smiles and laughter. Thus a young lady, "with silken cheek and chin devoid of hair," proclaims her intention of having her portrait taken "by the Beard;" while a gentleman inquires of the dining bell if it would not be possible to give it a *gala* ring! Some gallant cockney puzzles the fair one on his arm by announcing that he has brought coals to Newcastle, and then wakes her titter with the explanation that there could be no necessity to bring among so many models one who is a model of perfection in herself! A lady in heavy silk rustles by some of the beautiful engines, and a holiday man behind likens her to a *modern churning*, because she is *sweeping by machinery*. Jokes about being *perfectly shocked* at the practice of electricity—getting up the steam for the holidays &c.—passed in abundance; and when some fine talker declared it beautiful to see the way in which the Institution had been *rocked in the cradle* of

science, a wag retorted, "It was no wonder, for the principal director was a Nurse!" *Ainsi va le monde* of the Polytechnic at Easter. So you are told at

MADAME TUSSAUD'S INSTITUTION,

That every one who goes there must *was* eulogistic; and when the ejaculations of wondering admirers echo round the rooms, somebody insinuates his surprise that the warmth of the praises does not melt the figures.

Madame Tussaud's is certainly an exhibition of remarkable interest, by reason first of the eventful histories that attach to the characters, and next of the air of life which is called into their effigies, not more by the truth and beauty of the waxen sculpture than by the vivid reality of costume, imitated in all its guises and colours. Persons may really make themselves as familiar with the external demeanour and appearance of public men of celebrity in former times, as if they were living in our own day; and those who, like our Easter holiday-makers, cannot always go to the bar, the pulpit, or the senate, to make acquaintance with the "popularities" of the present hour, may have what is next door to a personal introduction to them under the auspices of Madame Tussaud. So completely is the fac-simile of the *personnel* preserved, that as you watch the unaccustomed visitors pressing by the groups it is by no means uncommon to hear an old gentleman apologise for having brushed the coat of Canning, or a young lady beg pardon for treading on the toe of Burdett! The real people, in fact, continually take the figures for real people too.

What Madame Tussaud has effected for the interest and celebrity of the art to which she has devoted herself, poor Miss Linwood did for poetry and painting in wondrous needlework. She has lately died full of years and honour, and in our last paper were recorded not only her genius and her virtue, but a noble portrait of her intelligent face. We do not know if her splendid gallery remains open, but if it do, there is no more delightful visiting spot for the temporary resort of those who are genuine lovers of pure and elevated art.

We cannot, however, expect so vast a progress in that refinement which is one element of the enjoyment of pictorial art (the public taste is happily leading even towards this, and has had we hope a very significant and powerful impetus upon the right path by our own exertions to familiarize the beauties of art to the people by means of an Illustrated Press), as should carry holiday crowds to Panoramas, Dioramas, Cosmoramas, and Picture Galleries, with such a multitudinous patronage as they bestow upon institutions which have the advantage of greater number, novelty, and curiosity in their subjects. Nor, on the other hand, are even these rushed into so rapidly as the theatre or the fair. Still we met a good sprinkling of her Majesty's lieges at the Cosmorama, Regent-street, where a series of beautiful and instructive subjects are produced, admirably painted, and finely aided in their magnificent effect by very clever and ingenious machinery.

THE CHINESE COLLECTION,

Reposing in Celestial dignity within the Palatial Pagoda of the Park of Hyde, has been so often illustrated by us in this journal, that we have little more to say of its very curious and complete attraction. Public interest in it will long preserve a freshness while new sources of commercial enterprise and social communication are opening up between the strange people whose whole country it illustrates, and the subjects of our own realms; and John Bull, when he comes from his rural farm, or turns out for his metropolitan holiday, will still crave a further acquaintance with the Celestial tribes who send him his Bohea and Souchong—his Hyson and his Gunpowder—through the divulging and instructing influences of this remarkable exhibition.

GAETIES AND GRAVITIES OF THE WEEK.

The news out of Parliament, and in the Easter week, is even of a gossiping character—it oscillates between foreign gravity and domestic gaiety—between the chances of a war with America, and the adventures or misadventures of a Greenwich fair. Or, reversing this order, it has domestic tragedy in the shape of executions for murder to contrast with the Parisian Carnival, and the promenade of the Longchamps parading the fashions of the spring. The people, meanwhile—like the Legislature—do not much busy themselves with a consideration of public affairs. They will have their holiday whether it be outside the debtors' door at Newgate—crushing each other to death in a morbid furor, after criminal retributions—or dancing the Polka in Richardson's booth. Very right they should, too, have their sprinkle of happiness—only we would rather they should seek it in the Park than by the felon's gaol—and it would please us to know that the million gathered the inspiration of their enjoyments from more wholesome sources than the curiosity which is whetted either by the sympathy with, or the execration against crimes of enormity. The scene at Tapping's execution on Easter Monday, was most horrible; and the loud applause of the populace—as though the culprit on the scaffold had been some great actor performing life's last tragedy on life's last stage—and enacting moreover, the part of hero in the dark performance, sounded like the death knell of public morality and leaves a horrid impression upon the heart. These public executions do a mischief far surpassing the value of their example.

To turn to public affairs. It seems to us that Ministers will have their work cut out for them to know how to deal with America. Mr. Polk's presidency has commenced after an inaugural ceremony, which had in it a good deal of republican mummery, with nothing that was imposing, but with this remarkable feature, that it was not attended by a single member of the diplomatic corps. This might have been accident or design; but it is not a bad commentary upon the fact that diplomacy with America so far resembles the pecuniary contracts of that vivacious country, that so far as good faith is concerned, it is of very little use. For instance a diplomatic negotiation is now pending between Great Britain and the United States upon the subject of the Oregon territory, and Mr. Polk, as chief magistrate, comes before the country with an address in which he states that the right of America to that territory is "clear and unquestionable." We guess he will find it not only pretty considerably questionable, but pretty considerably questioned, and we shall be tarnation flabbergasted if the "I wish you may get it" of John Bull is not at least as forcible as the "clear and unquestionable" of Mr. President Polk. Touching the annexation of Texas the same worthy has also ripped up the old farrago of its having belonged to America before, and evolved the logical query as a sort of sequitur of, therefore—"Why shouldn't they have it again?" He is, at all events, favourable to the annexation.

It is amusing enough in the meanwhile to hear him giving monarchical names to the various divisions of his precious Republic.

He says in his address, that each State is a "distinct Sovereignty," and that the whole Union is a "distinct Sovereignty," a contradiction in terms about as admissible as the justice of the annexation of Texas, or the claim to the Oregon territory. In a serious point of view, however, owing to the position of power in which this ambitious Polkist is placed, his mad opinions may work considerable influence upon the destinies of Europe, and are especially to be regarded by this country with decisive circumspection. If the Congress should deem it expedient to follow out the views, which his inaugural address implies are likely to be propounded by the President, we do not see how Great Britain is to escape from a war.

The question of Texas might become one of arrangement, though not without the imminence of a dangerous crisis, but that of Oregon admits of no compromise, and in the rights of this country must be vindicated without the cession of one inch of their legitimate footing. Lord Aberdeen is a hard-headed politician of the coldest diplomatic school, with sufficient *amor patriæ* and Scotch feeling moreover, in favour of sticking to what is his country's and his own, to ensure to society a conviction that, so far as he is concerned, we are likely to have either an Oregon territory or an American war, or both, as the issue of battle or negotiation may decide. These matters are fast drawing to a consummation, and the cautious eyes of politicians, above all of governing politicians, cannot be directed upon them with too watchful vigilance.

All over Switzerland they are expelling the Jesuits, and all over London they are stealing the dogs. It may be all very pleasant for a Swiss to get rid of a Jesuit whom he hates, but it is not altogether so gratifying for an English gentleman to lose an animal to which he is attached. Upon the principle of "look at home," therefore, we throw overboard the Jesuits, and adhere to the dogs and gentlemen, more especially as the quadrupeds and bipeds last implied have this week received a heavy blow and a great discouragement at the hands of magisterial authority. It appears, that amongst a number of the biped race who have had their dogs stolen, was a Mr. Vulliamy, who being directed or escorted to some depot for canine theft, is there refused the restoration of the dog stolen, although there before him, and in all the ecstatic agencies of joyful recognition, unless he consents to be forthwith mulcted, in a sum, according to his own statement, exactly forty-eight times the value of the animal decoyed. In the event of his refusing this, the cool dog-stealer propounds the other alternative, to kill the dog and throw it to the dogs; in other words, to hurl its carcase into the street, to test the difference of pressure between the wheel of a gentleman's carriage and that of a brewer's dray. "You love your dog," says the dog-stealer, "and he is worth half a crown; it would be palpably absurd to ask you to pay six pounds for your dog, but if you have a spark of humanity in you, or of dogmanity in you, I will make you pay six pounds for your love; if you don't, hocus pocus presto! Pincher dies! Upon this Mr. Vulliamy goes to consult Mr. Hall, no doubt upon a case of open-mouthed, profligate, and defying felony, but Mr. Hall abrogates the magisterial responsibility of taking cognizance of any

thing so trifling as a theft, when the thief is not brought before him, gives Mr. Vulliamy the gratuitous information that Bow-street is not an advertising office, and that he, Mr. Hall (the country ought to congratulate itself) is not an M.P., and advises him to seek redress in the columns of a morning newspaper! We do readily admit that morning newspapers, and newspapers generally, frequently enforce the redress of grievances which magistrates would leave in their pristine state of injustice; but, in the meanwhile, Mr. Vulliamy compromises with the dog-stealer for thirty-two times the amount of his animal's value, and pays him four pounds for his half-crown favourite instead of six. It strikes us that when saddlers and cobblers sat upon the stipendiary bench, their qualifications for administering justice proved nearly as efficient as those of some of our briefless promoted, who have graduated in the inns of court.

So much for stipendiary; now for unpaid wisdom. A man in Buckinghamshire, being threatened with a thrashing from some other lumpkin of the same locality, applies to the magistrates to have the menacer bound to keep the peace. Those solons thought the case too trivial, and so perhaps it was; but they further added the following piece of advice, with the persuasion of Nestor and the caution of Ulysses:—"Carry with you a thick stick, and if he molest you, lay the stick about his back." The man takes the advice of the magistrates, and speedily possesses himself of a bludgeon. His opponent, hearing of the shillelah, picks up a rusty bayonet, and, with true military ardour, carries it about in his pocket in defiance of the black-thorn of the magistrates' pet. The rivals meet, and there is a scrambling encounter, in which the stick does a little mischief, and the bayonet draws a very little blood. The man with the bayonet is taken up for stabbing, and in order to show that he has no more chance against the stick, before the judge, than he had before the magistrates, he is tried as that revolting animal which Eugene Sue calls a "chourineur," and sentenced by Mr. Justice Parke to FIFTEEN YEARS TRANSPORTATION!! This comes of magistrates recommending blackthorns.

What has the Colonial Office been at, in meddling with the Malta currency? Wherein has the heavy dollar so offended Lord Stanley or the Treasury, that one or either of them should curtail it of its fair proportions? Why should the confiding Maltese, who fancied that he had four and twopence in his pocket, with every "gracious impress of the country's coin," be electrically roused to the conviction that he has only four shillings? We did not much like, in money-changing London, paying the differences between the heavy sovereigns and the light penny or twopence in the pound, which we lost by the wear and tear of our specie, seemed a grievance to us here, but what must it be in little mercantile Malta, for people of all degrees to lose twopence in the dollar, because some idler in the English Ministry has taken a fit of industry, and vented it in the scribbling of the Colonial Despatch.

Lord Ellenborough gives Sir Charles Napier a sword, and Glasgow, Sir Henry Pottinger a dinner; two or three Generals have fallen out of life, but General Tom Thumb has been *fêted* at the Tulleries, and multiplying himself into a number of Grecian statues to delight the classicity of the King of the French.

The Dublin Royal Society has professed a similar enthusiasm for the Greek drama, and has concentrated it upon the person of Helen Fautic, in the form of an elegant brooch. The Philharmonic Society, in the pursuit of its hot career of mismanagement, has been obliged to curtail its mismanagement, and to forego Dragonetti. The Easter theatres have filled capitolity. The Suffolk-street Gallery is open, and there is just now a considerable abundance of literature and art. We have not been to Greenwich Fair, but intend to go next Whitsuntide.

ACCIDENTS AND OFFENCES.

EXECUTION OF THE BETHNAL GREEN MURDERER.

On Monday morning, James Tapping was executed at Newgate, for the murder of Emma Whiter, at Bethnal-green.

The conduct of the wretched man, both before and since conviction, was marked by the strictest propriety of demeanour.

On Sunday he attended divine service in the prison chapel, and passed the remainder of the day in the performance of his religious duties. The Rev. Mr. Davis was constantly in attendance upon him, but the day closed without any openly avowed expression of repentance. Tapping retired to rest about half-past ten o'clock that evening, and soon fell into a profound sleep, from which he did not awake until half-past five o'clock on Monday morning. He then got up and dressed himself with more than ordinary attention to his toilet, remarking to one of the turnkeys, two of whom sat up with him every night since his conviction, "That he did not know how it was, but he slept just as soundly in Newgate as he had been accustomed to do at home."

On the morning of the execution, about seven o'clock, the culprit partook of breakfast, eating very heartily, and inviting the officers in attendance to do the same. Two cups of coffee, the same quantity of tea, two rolls, and a round of toast, formed the last meal of the wretched man.

At five minutes before eight o'clock, Calcraft, the executioner, was admitted to the cell for the purpose of performing the duties of his office. The awful symbols of the ignominious fate he was about to suffer, appeared not in the slightest degree to affect the prisoner. His firmness was perfectly astonishing.

Tapping bore the process of pinioning with the greatest fortitude, and so soon as it was completed, he turned to Mr. Sheriff Sydney, and said, "I have one request to make, Sir; it is that I may be allowed to say a few words on the scaffold."

The procession then moved forward, the rev. ordinary reading the impressive service for the burial of the dead.

The wretched man mounted the scaffold without the slightest assistance, and walked deliberately forward towards the centre of the drop. In this position he stood for a moment, apparently contemplating the sea of upturned faces directed towards him. He then bowed thrice in a somewhat theatrical manner, turning himself successively to the west, north, and south. This unusual movement was greeted by loud cheers and clapping of hands from the crowd. As soon as he had thus bowed, he appeared about to address the assemblage in front of the scaffold, but the buzz which arose from the mass of human beings congregated evidently convinced him that it was useless to attempt to make himself heard, and turning to the chaplain and ordinary, his last words were, "I acknowledge the justice of my sentence, and I forgive everyone, as I hope by God's blessing to be forgiven." He then shook hands successively with the executioner, the ordinary, and Mr. Sheriff Sydney, grasping the hands of the latter gentleman, and kissing them with great apparent fervour. The wretched man then resumed his position in the centre of the drop, and looked up with apparent curiosity at the beam and fatal chain. The cap was immediately drawn over his face, the rope adjusted, and the unfortunate felon, whose firm nerves never for a moment deserted him, was turned off, and died without a struggle.

Tapping was a young man of rather prepossessing appearance, and had scarcely completed his 22d year. He wore a black velvet shooting jacket and grey striped trousers, and had a very clean and neat appearance.

The crowd at one period must have numbered between 6000 and 7000 persons. The majority seemed to have made their pilgrimage to Newgate the opening of a day's holiday.

CHILDREN BURNED TO DEATH.—On Tuesday Mr. Baker held no fewer than five inquests upon the bodies of children burnt to death. The first inquest was held at the London Hospital, and was upon the body of Jane Stevens, aged five years. Deceased's parents reside in Crisp street, Poplar, and on Saturday week she was striking a lucifer match, when a spark from it ignited her dress, and set her on fire, from the effects of which she died in the above Institution on Friday.—The second inquest was held at the same place, and was upon the body of Emma May, aged four years; deceased's parents reside in Pelham-street, Spitalfields, and on Thursday last she was reaching something from the mantel-shelf, when her clothes took fire, and she expired from the effects of the burn on the next day.—The third inquest was held at the same place, on the body of Peter Tomm, nine years; deceased's parents residing in Dunn's-alley, Bishopsgate. On Friday, whilst alone in a room, he began playing with some lighted shavings, set himself on fire, and died on the following day from the burns.—A fourth inquest was held at the same place, on the body of Louisa Collnay, aged 11 years. Deceased's parents reside in Union-street, Whitechapel, and on Thursday evening last she was looking into a cupboard for some currants, with a lighted candle in her hand, when she accidentally set her frock on fire, and the injuries she received were so severe that she expired on the following day.—The fifth inquest was held at the Green Dragon, Wells-street, Hackney, on the body of John Pusgood, aged four years. Deceased's parents reside in Gun-wood-row, Hackney-wick, and on Thursday, during the temporary absence of the mother, the poor little fellow got playing with the teakettle on the fire, and set his pinafore in flames, and died from the severe injuries the same night. Verdict, in each case, "Accidental death."

THE LATE STEAM BOILER EXPLOSION AT BLACKWALL.—On Wednesday the coroner, and jury impanelled to inquire into the cause of the death of Thomas Wright, George Chapman, Richard Grimes, William Neale, and Jonathan Smith, the five individuals who lost their lives by the explosion of a steam boiler on the premises of Messrs. Samuda and Co., at Blackwall, re-assembled at the Town Hall, Poplar, for the fifth time. The several witnesses were bound over to give evidence against George Lowe, the foreman, at the next Central Criminal Court. Previous to the jury being discharged they handed to the coroner a statement to the following effect:—"The jury cannot close this investigation without expressing their opinion that the application of low pressure boilers to high pressure purposes, is highly dangerous, and ought to be prohibited by law. And they are further of opinion, that the important facts elicited on the inquiry should be laid before her Majesty's Government, in the hope that some legislative enactment may be adopted, whereby, if possible, to prevent that fearful destruction of human life which arises under the present imperfect system." The coroner said he should be happy to give effect to the opinion of the jury, which he thought to be a very proper one.

EXPLOSION AND LOSS OF TWO LIVES AT POPLAR.—On Saturday afternoon a fatal explosion took place in the manufactory belonging to Messrs. Robeson and Highams, patent signal light manufacturers, near Poplar. It appears that five or six persons were employed in the shop—a long range of shedding, one story in height—in the manufacture of the signal-lights; the

one of them by accident fell from a shelf on to a stove used for the purpose of warming the building, and that it exploded with terrific violence. Engines having arrived and put out the fire, the ruins were searched by the firemen, and the bodies of a fine young girl, and a young man named Henry Jones, were found among the rubbish. The spectacle was dreadful. The shed in which the accident took place is only 30 yards in length, and 13 in breadth. There were two explosions, the second following the first at an interval of a few seconds. The names of the deceased were Henry Jones and Charlotte Exley. The former was in his 16th year, the latter was in her 13th. An inquest was held on the unfortunate sufferers on Tuesday evening, by Mr. Baker, at the Britannia Tavern, Limehouse. In the course of the examination, the coroner remarked that it would appear that the deceased, Charlotte Exley (thirteen years of age), was not acquainted with the nature of the combustibles she was intrusted with, and the jury could hardly feel that it was proper a child of her inexperience should have been permitted to have had the handling of such dangerous articles. Mr. John Higham, the partner of Mr. Robeson, in the manufacture of the patent signal light, was of opinion that the mode of ignition used in the patent must have been accidentally used by the deceased Exley. He was packing up some of the lights for her Majesty's Customs, and found some of them improperly labelled, and he gave them back to Charlotte Exley to do properly. His impression was that in taking off one of the labels she withdrew the tin slide, and, having injudiciously placed it back again, ignited the light, and in her alarm dropped it amongst some others. The jury returned a verdict of "Accidental death."

A MAN KILLED AT STEPNEY FAIR.—On Monday night a very appalling accident happened to a man of colour named Morris, whilst engaged in turning one of the ponderous circular swings at Stepney fair, and which, we regret to add, terminated in his instant death. The unfortunate man was on a kind of a platform at work at a large fly-wheel, which moved the machine, full 30 feet from the ground, when the handle suddenly moved round, overbalancing him, and before he could recover himself, he was precipitated over the platform on to the ground, falling on his head with much violence. He was instantly removed to the surgery of Mr. Faulkner, when it was found that he was quite dead, the heavy fall having apparently broken his neck. It is stated that the sad accident was entirely attributable to the man's own fool-hardiness. It is usual in these machines to provide against danger to the man at the wheel by erecting a breast-work around the scaffold in which he is employed, but Morris refused to avail himself of this precaution, alleging that he worked with more ease and freedom in its absence.

STRANGE SUICIDE OF A TRADESMAN IN THE CITY.—On Monday evening Mr. Joseph Payne held an inquest at the Blossoms Inn, Lawrence-lane, Cheap-side, on the body of Mr. Thomas Smith, aged 33, painter and glazier, at No. 10, in the above lane. From the evidence of the witnesses it appeared that the deceased had been unusually dull, low spirited, and taciturn, for the last few days, a change in his disposition which could not be accounted for. He went out early on Sunday, and his wife supposed him to be out the whole day; but as he remained out all night, and as she could not learn where he was gone, the house was searched, and he was found in one of the cellars hanging by the neck. He had been dead some hours. His affairs were in a favourable state, and no cause could be given for either the sudden change in his temper or his suicide. Verdict, "Temporary insanity."

FIRE AT LIVERPOOL.—On Thursday evening, the Apothecary Company's Warehouse, situate in the rear of the Hall, in Back Colquhoun-street, where they carried on the manufacture of several of their drugs, caught fire, and was, in the course of half an hour, one mass of flame from top to bottom. The fire first made its appearance on the third floor, but how it originated is, from the confusion that prevailed, mere conjecture. Happily, the building stood almost alone, but was so closely surrounded by other property, that it required the utmost exertions of the police force to confine the fire to its immediate locality. An immense quantity of water was thrown upon the back of the hall (one of the noblest and most costly buildings in the town), in order to prevent ignition, with excellent effect, although the flames opposite raged in its immediate vicinity. Towards six o'clock the fire began gradually to be subdued, and at the moment of writing (six p.m.) we think no further alarm need be apprehended. The warehouse will, of course, be a total ruin, together with its valuable contents, comprising the machinery used for grinding drugs, druggery articles of every description, oils, turpentine, &c., which loss we understand will not be covered under £15,000, to £20,000, upon which little or no insurance has been effected, from the nature of the premises and the works carried on.

A SKETCH OF TAWELL'S HISTORY.

John Tawell, the unhappy man who was executed yesterday at Aylesbury, was born in 1784; was the second son of Thomas Tawell, who for a considerable number of years kept a general shop in the parish of Adleby, a village in Norfolk, about six miles from Beccles. In this quiet and secluded village the subject of this memoir was born, and spent much of his childhood and early youth. He received a plain and useful education—such as would serve the pursuits of trade for which he was intended—at the village school. At this school John Tawell continued for about seven years, and became a proficient in the humble sciences which constituted the amount of his teacher's professional stores.

John Tawell, about the year 1798, entered the service of a widow (one of the Society of Friends) who kept a general shop in the village of Pakefield, near Lowestoft, in Suffolk. In this situation he remained about five years; and by the activity and industry of his life, and the strict decorum of his habits, he gained the confidence of his employer and the respect of her customers, who were chiefly the inhabitants of that and the adjacent villages. It was here that Tawell was induced to attach himself to the views, and to adopt the garb, the phraseology, and the other general characteristics of the Society of Friends. While in this situation Tawell formed a rather close intimacy with Joseph Hunton, the Quaker linen-draper, who in 1823 was executed at Newgate for forgery. At that time Hunton resided at Yarmouth; Tawell went occasionally there on business for his employer, and also on "first days" often went thither for the purpose of attending worship in the Friends' meeting-house in that town. The young men frequently met, and thus an intimacy sprung up between two persons whose subsequent career in vice, though somewhat varied as to the character of their respective crimes, afterwards procured for both an undesirable notoriety, and an ignominious death on the scaffold. Hunton was detected and executed after Tawell had been transported for an offence of the same class. As Hunton was known to have been long engaged in the practice of forging and negotiating forged bills of exchange—which, as they became due, he paid with the proceeds of other forgeries—it is by no means improbable that Tawell's intimacy with Hunton, which he continued after his arrival in London, might have gradually undermined his moral principles, and suggested the idea of forgery as the means of raising pecuniary supplies. Hunton had married a Quaker lady of Yarmouth, of highly respectable connections there; and, at the time of his apprehension for the forgery for which he was executed, and for some years previously, had been in business as a linen-draper, in Norton Folgate. On Tawell's return from Sydney, he inquired after his old acquaintance, Hunton, and, on being informed of his fate, expressed much sympathy.

In the latter part of 1803, or beginning of 1804, Tawell entered London, bringing with him letters of introduction to some of the Society of Friends, from their Suffolk connexions. These speedily procured for him a situation with a member of their own community, a Mr. Janson, the proprietor of an extensive linen-draper's establishment in Whitechapel. It was here that Tawell met with the young woman he afterwards married; but under circumstances which tended to diminish the respect he had acquired by his previously correct morals. This offence against morals was considerably increased by the fact, that Tawell was at the time carrying on a correspondence, with a view to marriage, with a young person of a respectable Quaker family at Yarmouth, with whom he had become intimate when a resident in Norfolk. Tawell and his wife were unhappy. The issue of this marriage was two sons, to whom reference has been made.

On leaving Mr. Janson's establishment, which he did soon after his marriage, Tawell obtained temporary employment in his own business. Being intelligent, active, and enterprising, he naturally sought for some pursuit more profitable in its remuneration, and better suited to his taste. At length he was recommended to Mr. Marsden, the head of an extensive wholesale drug and patent medicine establishment in the neighbourhood of Queen-street, Cheap-side. He was engaged to travel for the house; and evinced so much activity and business tact, combined with devoted zeal to the interests of his employers, that he was highly prized by them as an efficient and trustworthy representative. During all this time Tawell retained his preference for the peculiarities of the sect with which he had been early associated, and was known on the road as "the Quaker traveller." While in Mr. Marsden's employ, Tawell is supposed to have acquired that knowledge of drugs, their properties and uses, and the mode of preparing them for medicinal purposes, which he subsequently turned to good account in Sydney; and which suggested the idea of using prussic acid to destroy the life of the unfortunate woman whom he murdered. Tawell continued in this situation about seven years, and was again rising into respect. As an intelligent and pushing man of business, the confidential representative of a first rate commercial house, Tawell was deserving of the respect in which he was held by those with whom he was brought into intercourse; and everything seemed to be proceeding, month after month, in a way at once satisfactory to his employers and advantageous to himself. At length the forgery on the Uxbridge Bank—the particulars of which were, to a considerable extent, suppressed at the time of its detection—burst upon the connexions of Tawell, and produced astonishment that one in whom so much confidence had been placed should have been induced to embark in a scheme, the failure and detection of which involved not merely the loss of character, but, at that time, the forfeiture of life. Having a forged Bank of England note in his possession at the time of his apprehension on the more serious charge—although there is reason to believe he had no guilty knowledge of its character—it was used as the means of procuring his escape from the consequences of the capital offence he had actually committed. The benevolent bankers (who were Quakers) were thus relieved from the necessity of prosecuting; the Bank of England took up the case of the forged note on their establishment; Tawell pleaded guilty by arrangement; and in 1814 was sent, a convict, to Sydney.

In that colony Tawell arrived in 1815. Here his knowledge of drugs immediately availed him. Instead of being assigned to a settler, and sent up the country, he was retained in the service of government, as one of the assistants in the convict hospital at Sydney. In this situation he continued

rather more than three years. His intelligence, assiduity, and carefulness here also acquired for him the favourable regards of his superiors, and by their recommendation, the Governor, Major-General Macquarrie, first granted him a ticket of leave, and shortly afterwards an emancipation ticket. Aided by some friends he had made among the officials in the colony, Tawell first commenced business in a small shop in Hunter-street, Sydney; and, meeting with encouragement, subsequently removed to more commodious premises in Pitt-street. The shop being large, and having two spacious windows, one side was appropriated to drugs and chemicals, and the other was fitted up as a grocery store. Here Tawell rapidly grew rich. He embarked in the shipping trade; engaged in oil speculations; and was successful in all. The report of his prosperity had reached England. His wife, with her children, had received no aid from him. Notwithstanding his changed circumstances, she had been living in obscurity and want; and at length obtained a place of domestic servitude in the family of a gentleman residing in King's Arms yard, Coleman-street, London. A subscription was raised to provide her and her sons with necessaries for the voyage, and a free passage was obtained for her and them. They embarked, and arrived at Sydney in 1824—no very welcome visitants to Tawell, who had formed another female acquaintance. Tawell made the best of the matter. Mrs. Tawell was installed mistress of the house; the sons were furnished with employment; and, to do Tawell justice, he provided them with the necessary instructors, and thus gave them the means of preparing for a respectable station in society. During his early residence in the colony Tawell's father died; and when his circumstances improved, and he was acquainted with the fact that his mother required aid, he regularly remitted money to England for the relief of her necessities, until her death.

Having accumulated a large amount of wealth—at least between £30,000 and £40,000—Tawell determined on returning to his native country, from which he had been absent more than sixteen years. Upon his arrival in London in 1831, he, with his family, first resided in a house in Great Prescott-street, Whitechapel. Thence he removed to Trinity square, Southwark, where he domiciled his wife and sons; but some affairs in Sydney requiring his personal attention, and having an opportunity of embarking, with a prospect of profit, a sum in the purchase of goods which he knew would meet with a ready sale in the Sydney markets, he set sail thither with a valuable cargo. By this speculation Tawell is said to have realized between £4000 and £5000. He returned home, having settled the business for which he undertook his voyage. Success in this undertaking induced Tawell to engage in another of a yet more extensive kind, and to embark once more for the scene of his success. On this occasion he took with him his wife and sons; the elder of whom, having completed his medical studies, he established in business in Sydney as a surgeon and apothecary, where, having first married, and after three or four years residence, he subsequently died. The death of this son deeply affected Tawell. He again determined on returning to England; and on his arrival took the house in Bridge-street, Southwark, so frequently alluded to on his trial, as that in which Sarah Hart was engaged to nurse Mrs. Tawell in her last illness, and where that acquaintance took place between the young nurse and her master which ultimately issued in her murder by her betrayer. Here Tawell assumed yet more strictly his characteristic preference for Quaker society; and employed his increased wealth in works of benevolence. Tawell was constant in his attendance on public worship at the Friends' meeting-house, and subscribed liberally to schools and other benevolent objects. We have heard from a credible source, that to one school connected with a Dissenting chapel in the Borough-road, he subscribed not less than £30 annually. He at length left the house in Bridge-street, and lived in retirement in the neighbourhood of Croydon, visiting Sarah Hart at different places where he had placed her in seclusion; at the same time paying his court most assiduously to the excellent but ill-fated lady who, unfortunately for herself, at length consented to become his wife.

Before Tawell left Sydney a dinner was given to him upon the occasion of his departure. The following is an extract from the *Sydney Gazette*, of Tuesday, Nov. 1, 1831:—

"FAREWELL DINNER.—On the evening of Saturday last, about 20 respectable colonists gave a farewell dinner, at Hart's tavern, to Mr. Tawell, an old and esteemed resident in Sydney, who is about to return to England by the first vessel. Mr. Samuel Terry presided on the occasion, and was well supported by Mr. Simon Lord as vice-president. After the cloth was removed, and the usual loyal toasts were drunk, the president, after some appropriate remarks, proposed the health of Mr. Tawell, who returned thanks for the honour conferred upon him by so many respectable gentlemen, assuring the company that whether he should return to the colony, or remain in England, the recollection of their kindness would ever be to him one of the greatest pleasures of his life. The health of Mrs. Tawell and family was also drunk, and acknowledged in suitable terms by Mr. Tawell. Several songs were sung in the course of the evening, and the company broke up about eleven o'clock, after enjoying one of the most convivial parties ever witnessed in the colony. The object of the entertainment, that of paying a well deserved tribute of respect to an old colonist, now about to bid, perhaps, a final adieu to our shores, was not more creditable to the guest than to those by whom so high a compliment was paid to him."

On Wednesday morning the culprit's wife and her daughter, Miss Cutforth, together with the brother, Mr. W. Tawell, arrived to take their final farewell. The prisoner had prepared several memoranda for his wife. His wishes were committed to paper with great method and accuracy. Minute commissions were set down, and various small and outstanding accounts were mentioned. There is a chapel at Sydney upon which he has laid out £700 or £800, and to this he had given much attention. He at one time resolved upon making this property a present to the Society of Friends; but he has now determined that they shall only use it rent free for a certain period, and upon condition of their keeping it in repair. This and other matters were all adjusted, and, having mentioned a trifling debt or two, he congratulated himself upon not owing a penny, and remarked that if anything further should come across his mind he would commit it to paper. Upon this, as upon all former occasions, he never alluded to his crimes, nor in any of the numerous and long epistles which he has addressed to his wife, and to others of his family, has he mentioned the circumstances of the murder. The subject is one which he has always avoided. When pressed to reveal all that he knew concerning it, he always answered, "I am not prepared—I am not prepared." Mr. Wilcox, of Berkhamstead, urged him to confess so earnestly, that after his departure he expressed a disinclination to see his reverend friend again.

The latter part of the visit of Mrs. Tawell was spent in devotion. Her husband prayed earnestly and eloquently. Miss Cutforth was deeply affected, and wept nearly all the time. The convict, on Wednesday, passed a restless night, a circumstance which he attributes to having taken final leave of his wife. He did not retire to rest till a late hour. He took his breakfast next morning, however, with his wonted air of tranquillity, observing that he should require but little sleep throughout the day. Upon his being asked whether he was acquainted with what would soon occur, he said, "Yes, I suppose to-morrow is the day; I thought as much. Well, I have no complaint to make." He did not appear to be unusually cast down. His brother visited him again on Thursday.

The *Bury Herald* says, "It is not generally known that John Tawell lived in the early part of his life at Yarmouth, and served behind a grocer's counter either as an apprentice or assistant, or in both capacities. We have seen an inscription in his handwriting on a piece of card-paper, which evidently at one time formed one of the covers of a book. The inscription consists of the murderer's name, and adds that it was written in remembrance of a lady (who had probably given him the book), and who died during his residence at her father's shop. It bears the date of year 1799. This fact disproves the general assertion that Tawell is now about fifty; he must be at least sixty, and probably sixty-five. The mistake in the orthography, and the imperfect style of the penmanship generally, is quite consistent with the amount and quality of education which it is probable Tawell ever received. His mother was left a widow, with four or five children, and lived at Whitacre, near Hadisco, Suffolk. She kept a chandlery shop in the village, but by industry and good character, and assisted by the support of those who were 'Friends' in other senses of the word than a nominal one, she succeeded in getting her children out. We hear that there is a married daughter now living at Whitacre. The scrap of paper has been preserved, because its present possessor placed a value upon it, inasmuch as it recorded the death and age of one to whom she was indebted."

Tawell is said by those who recollect him when here to have been a very shrewd, clever lad, and was much liked for the amiability of his conduct. He has been through life one of the most consummate hypocrites on record."

The following facts and corrections of some few errors which have gained currency, relating to the past life of John Tawell, our informant has obtained from a gentleman who was on the medical staff at Sydney, and who resided there at the period to which they refer:—

It has been stated, as "a perfect truth," that for some time previous to Tawell leaving the colony, to return to England, he was not only in the habit of associating with the highest society, but that he was received as a guest at the Governor's table, and was on visiting terms with the Executive Council, and other authorities of that colony. The statement is in every particular incorrect.

At the time to which we refer, when it was stated that Tawell was in the habit of mixing with the members of the Executive Council, and also dining at the Governor's table, Major-General Richard Bourke was the Governor of New South Wales, in residence at Sydney.

We have to remark that not a single free settler attended the farewell dinner given to him at Sydney; those who were present, we have the highest authority for stating, consisted entirely of what are termed "the ex-presses," "the emancipated," and "the ticket-of-leave mob." The Mr. Samuel Terry, who was in the chair, and who was mainly instrumental in getting up the dinner, had been transported for life some years previously for a high way robbery. He was never enabled to procure a free pardon, and at that time was merely "at large" on a ticket of leave. He was then carrying on a very large business, and in some way, in his mercantile pursuits, connected with Tawell. When he died at Sydney, some few years after the dinner given to Tawell, his property was considered to amount to nearly one million sterling. He had two sons, to whom the great bulk of his immense wealth was bequeathed.

There is no doubt that Tawell became a wealthy man in the colony. Both Tawell and his friend Samuel Terry realised immense profits upon the sums

they advanced to needy persons on the security of their houses and lands, and upon other property. Both had got hold of a rascally lawyer, and through his aid they were enabled to cheat and plunder their unfortunate victims to an unknown extent.

Great stress has been laid (in order to show the sincerity of Tawell as a teetotaler) on his having, in the year 1836, caused the contents of seven hogheads of rum and gin to be emptied into Sydney Cove, amounting to 608 gallons, and worth £100. Our informant, who was at Sydney at the time, and witnessed this "tremendous sacrifice of property," states that the contents of only two small barrels, said to be rum or gin, were thrown away, and that the quantity, at the utmost, did not exceed fifty or sixty gallons. This affair was spoken of afterwards at the table of the Governor, and the prevailing opinion at the time, both there and throughout the colony, was, that it was merely done for the sake of notoriety, and to endeavour to gain the favour of certain influential persons in the colony. The rum, however, was seen through, and the Quaker took nothing by his motion. At this time Tawell had returned to Sydney from England (long after he had received his free pardon, of course) on a trading visit.

A report has lately been circulated in England that Tawell, shortly after he arrived the first time at Sydney (to undergo his sentence of transportation), had been whipped through the town for stealing a watch of one of the convicts. This is not true; had it been, this circumstance would have prevented his ever obtaining a ticket of leave, much less a free pardon.

The house and shop in which Tawell carried on the business of a druggist at Sydney were at No. 18, Pitt-street. The shop was remarked as being very low and dirty, and the house only one story in height. The rent was £35 a year. In the year 1827 or 1828, the business was purchased by Mr. Ambrose Foss, who pulled down the premises and rebuilt them.

At the period of Tawell's commencing business there were not more than two or three Quakers in the colony. His Quaker's dress, and his generally sedate, quiet, respectable demeanour, disarmed suspicion of his real character and insidious designs, and enabled him to practise his knavery with greater success. He was always looked upon, by the respectable portion of society at Sydney, to be a great knave, and to be anything but a religious man, notwithstanding the great efforts he made to be thought one.

In early life Tawell's hair, which is now described as light, was of so burning a red, that he has said the boys called after him in the street, "Mind you don't set a haystack on fire." He was very gentlemanly in his manners, and exceedingly kind to his present wife and her daughter.

THE NEW GOVERNOR OF CARMARTHEN WORKHOUSE.—Thomas Evans has been elected governor of Carmarthen workhouse. Evans was last year taken prisoner amongst a party of other Rebeccites for an attack on this very workhouse, and, strange to say, he is now duly installed master of it. It is expected the Poor-law Commissioners will interfere.

MUSIC.

SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY.

A selection of anthems, and other church music, from the works of Tallis, Tye, Purcell, Gibbons, Creighton, Blow, Clark, Croft, Green, Boyce, Battishill, Lord Mornington, and Dr. Cooke, was performed by this truly spirited and national society yesterday evening. It was a delicious enjoyment to listen to the sublime strains and venerable harmonies of those old masters, contrasted with the timely and thoughtless compositions of the moderns.

THE THEATRES.

As we predicted at Christmas, burlesques have proved the chief novelties at the different theatres, no less than five having been produced on Easter Monday; the majority of which have been as successful as authors, actors, and managers, could desire. It is curious, having seen them all, to observe how sharp a look-out the writers have kept upon the current topics of the day: for, in every one, we have jokes and allusions either upon the budget, income-tax, galvanic rings, Cellarius waltz, civic defalcations, mesmerism, or loan societies, *cum multis aliis*. The burlesques are a great improvement both upon pantomimes and the old Easter spectacles; and whilst they amuse by their verbal pleasantries and scenic effects, are found to be the best vehicles for castigating the follies of the day now that comedies, properly so called, appear to have left the stage.

HER MAJESTY'S

On Thursday was performed, for the first time in this country, the late Felicien David's Ode Symphonique, called "The Desert." It abounds with many beauties, but we may also say faults—we hear the choruses over and over again, and the instrumentation is terribly monotonous. It seems to us that wherever the composer could lay hold of a *pedale* he worked upon it *usque ad nauseam*—moreover, he has the habit of giving more last notes to his terminal symphonies, so that one fears they will never come to an end.

In the selection which preceded "The Desert" Moriani sang a charming ballad, entitled "L'Honorable," which was encored. In part second of the Ode he also sang two ballads, and obtained another encore. The instrumental opening of the third part, descriptive of the rising of the sun, was also honoured with an universal call for repetition. Moriani was quite ready to sing another ballad—but the people rose, and the orchestra rose, and the house was soon cleared, without any decided indications that the new production will effect a similar *furor* here as it has done in Paris.

DRURY LANE.

The Easter novelty at this house was a comic ballet of action, called "Robert and Bertrand," closely adapted from the French piece "L'Auberge des Adrets," which we had occasion to notice a few weeks back in connection with M. Frederic Lemaître's admirable performance of *Robert Macaire*. The previous history of the swindler and his ally is shown by an introductory *tableau*, exhibited in the middle of the overture, wherein Robert (Mr. W. H. Payne) and Bertrand (Mr. T. Mathews) are shown escaping from prison, on a wet night. The curtain then falls again, and the real action of the piece commences at the end of the overture, with the arrival of this hopeful pair at the inn of *M. Dumont* (Mr. Priorson) on the wedding-day of his son Charles (Mr. Delferrie) with *Clementine* (Miss Hunt). Here they form a plan for stealing the wedding portion of the bride, brought by her father, *Mons. Germain* (Mr. Burt), in which they ultimately succeed, after running a great risk of being taken into custody by some *gendarmes*, who make various unpleasant investigations connected with their passports. The alarm in which everybody is thrown by reason of the robbery concludes the first act. In the second, some months are supposed to have elapsed, and Robert and Bertrand, by means of their ill-gotten booty, have started an Assurance Office against thieves. Robert is also looked upon as a respectable citizen, and is on the eve of marrying *Mademoiselle Eloi* (Miss Curson), the daughter of a rich *Marquis* (Mr. Howell). He is, however, unfortunately recognised by *Pierre*, who had been formerly a waiter at *M. Dumont's* hotel; and upon his information preparations are made to arrest the pair of scamps at a splendid ball given by the *Marquis* in honour of the approaching nuptials. Robert, however, contrives to turn out all the gas just as Bertrand and himself are arrested, and in the darkness and confusion they make their escape, coming down a chimney into a kitchen where two soldiers are regaling with their sweethearts. A fresh pursuit again commences, and the scamps are at last hunted into a *guinguette*, or public garden, where a balloon is about to ascend. They hide themselves for a time amidst the crowd, until being hard pressed by their pursuers, they jump into the car of the balloon, cut the cords, and go up out of sight, to the intense bewilderment of every body. With this novel situation the piece concludes.

We must confess that we have seen ballers with which we have been more pleased. To rob *Robert Macaire* of his inflated speeches and impudent assurance, is to take away all his fun; and even the talent of Mr. W. H. Payne could not render this dumb version of the unequalled *chevalier d'industrie* more than ordinarily amusing. We must not pass over, however, some very astonishing dancing by two new *artistes*—Mlle. Polin and M. Gasparino—who performed some of the most extraordinary evolutions we ever witnessed, and were eminently successful. Mlles. Adele and Louise, from the Lyceum, also came in for their share of applause; and the pantomimists, generally, exerted themselves to the utmost. The feats of a juggler might have been omitted with great advantage, and so some of the audience appeared to think. They were of that kind which we see every day in the streets for nothing. The reception of the ballet was, upon the whole, satisfactory. The house was moderately attended—as well, however, as could have been expected with the powerful attractions in all quarters.

LYCEUM.

Having been painted, papered, and re-decorated, this theatre opened on Monday with Farquhar's comedy of "The Recruiting Officer," compressed into three acts; but its reception was not such as to justify its continuance, and it was withdrawn from the bills on Thursday, so that we need say no more about it, except, that it was stated to be "the first time it had been played for fifteen years," we hope twice that time will elapse before it is again represented. After the comedy a new farce was produced, called "The Lowther Arcade," and was nearly condemned, this first night, from the terribly inefficient manner in which it was played. In fact, the performance was little more than an incomplete rehearsal, but it has since worked up capital, and goes off with roars of laughter. Mr. Keeley performs the part of *Bonus*, the most amiable clerk ever connected with an attorney's office, who has formerly been a teacher at an infant school, and was dismissed for making his pupils ill with presents of confectionery. He will not serve writs when the debtors plead poverty, and wishes to prevent people from assuring in his master's office, "The Fireside and Circumnavigating Life Assurance Society," because they will be paying premiums all their lives. To acquire authority over everybody whose interests he wishes to serve, he assumes the dress of the beadle of the Lowther Arcade; and it may be conceived how very dull Keeley looked in this costume. There is, of course, a love plot between *Captain Mornington* (Mr. Bellingham) and *Miss Barnacle* (Miss Dawson)—a lady-like actress from the Bristol theatre. *Premium* (Mr. Meadows) is a clerk, a vinegar and malice, who is punished by finding that, by mistake, he has promoted the happiness of everybody. The author has aimed at the development of a character rather than the complication of a plot, and has succeeded in his intention. It is to be regretted that a little more pains were not taken with it on Monday, for which, however, Mr. Keeley apologised.

The entertainments concluded with the new extravaganza of "Whittington and his Cat," written by Messrs. Albert Smith and Taylor, which promises to rival "Aladdin" and "Valentine." Whittington and his Cat is a graceful legend—we



SCENE FROM THE BURLESQUE OF "ST. GEORGE AND THE DRAGON," AT THE ADELPHI THEATRE.

have few prettier pertaining to English history; and it has the advantage of being a thorough home subject. A little departure is made from the original story, inasmuch as Whittington accompanies Puss to Morocco; but the leading features remain the same. We have the arrival of little Dick (Mrs. Keeley) in London, by the Chertsey waggon; his engagement by Master Fitzwarren (Mr. F. Matthews), and ill-treatment by Ursula, the cook (Mrs. Usher). Then we have his day dream upon Holloway Hill (which our illustration shows), with the song of the old bells; his love for Alice Fitzwarren (Miss Villars); his return, and final venture of his cat, on board the merchant's argosy. In Act II. we arrive at Mogadore, where Muley Moloch, the "Lion-tamer of the Desert" (Mr. Keeley), is sadly bullied by his French protector, Alcide Belle-Poule (Mr. A. Wigan). All who remember the portrait of the Prince de Joinville in the ILLUSTRATED NEWS will be struck with the resemblance. Alice, disguised as a sailor, and Dick, with Puss, are wrecked upon the island, and being found in the harem, are sentenced to death, when Dick offers to free the state from the rats. A grand battle takes place; the Cat is victorious, and Dick and Alice return to England in the aerial ship of their friends, the fairies, laden with wealth, and leaving Alcide to marry the Princess Zaida (Miss Farebrother).

From the hits and allusions, which the audience seized upon most readily, we take the following. The fairies are complaining of the desecration of the country by enclosures, and the allotment system:—

Puck. There's not a hamlet left.
So they complain,
Goodfellow,
At Covent-Garden, and at Drury-Lane

Whittington inquires of Doitrell (Mr. Kinloch), Mr. Fitzwarren's shopman, who he is:—

Dot. Sir, I'm a gentleman.
Dick. No, you're a gent.
Dot. Well, what's the difference—that's what I meant.
Dick. No, though your "gent." swears, swaggers, wears fine clothes,
A Moses doublet and a Doudney hose,
Drinks, gambles, looks as "spicy" as he can,
Your "gent." can never be a gentleman.

The clerks are making their different ventures on board Fitzwarren's ship. They bring various articles.

Fitz. Ah, here's refinement for the native novels,
A half-price batch of fashionable novels.
Dick. With those on board, we're certain not to drown,
Do what you will, those novels won't go down.

Fitz. What are those paltry, shabby-looking things?
Dot. Fashionable circles, or galvanic rings.

They will cure anything, or I'm mistaken,
From gout and rheumatiz to hams and bacon.

Dick. Perhaps they cured the Pennsylvanians, too;
Theirs was a case of real *tic douloureux*.

A hint at frauds in the customs:—

Fitz. You'll come the contraband.
Shipman. Of course my beauty,
England expects each man to do the duty.

A fairy's mission:—

Puck. Verjuice! amongst the authors take your station,
And tip their pens with "virtuous indignation."
'Gainst game-laws, unions, cheap shirts, raise their gall,
The line which now-a-days pays best of all;
Hailing at wealth, they win wherewith to dine,
By high-speeded horror, at so much per line.

A hint to politicians:—

Alcide. The rats have gone.
Dick. Oh no, that ne'er the case is:
Rats may change sides, but always keep their places.

The scenery is exceedingly beautiful: we may particularize "Holloway Hill, with old London, by sunset;" "Baynard's Wharf, with the river, and London-bridge, and the argosy, the Alice, clearing out with cargo," and the concluding scene of "The Harem." The piece was admirably performed. Mrs. Keeley's Dick Whittington was inimitable, and Miss Villars, a new actress from the provinces, will prove a valuable member of the company. She was encored in a hornpipe. Mr. Keeley produced roars of laughter by a burlesque of Van Amburgh's brute-taming with the Cat, excellently acted by Mr. Collyer; and Mr. Frank Matthews was an effective Master Fitzwarren. At the fall of the curtain the applause was most enthusiastic, and the principal performers were called for. We should not omit a "Pas Styrien" by Miss Farebrother and Mr. Wigan, which was encored.

ADELPHI.

The ready pens of Messrs. Mark Lemon and Gilbert à Beckett, have furnished a very admirable burlesque to this theatre, "founded," as they assure us, "on a polite request from Madame Celeste," but taken from the old English chivalric

legend of "St. George and the Dragon." Putting aside the clever notion worked out with great tact in the plot—that of making the dragon the impersonation of humbug—as well as the sparkling dialogue, which is crammed with jokes, puns, and allusions, the piece has been produced in the most gorgeous style: all the appliances are of first-rate excellence, and the extravaganza, good as it is in itself, has certainly received every adventitious aid from the spirited management.

St. George is performed by Miss Woolgar, a valuable actress in burlesque, where intelligence and perception of humour are required. Mr. Wright is Alcide, a black monarch, paying court to the Princess Sabra (Miss Ellen Chaplin); Mr. Paul Bedford is "great" in all senses as the Dragon, and wears a dress which is an ingenious compromise between a scaly monster's and a Newmarket "cut-away;" and Mr. Selby is a magnificent Ptolemy.

St. George undertakes the crusade against the Dragon, to win the hand of Sabra, and finally vanquishes him by the Press, which changes to the Spirit of Truth, ingeniously working out the notion above alluded to.

There are so many good things in this burlesque that it is very difficult to select some. Possibly those which follow are amongst the best.

Crimoth is dressing the hair of Kabyla, the enchantress:—

Cui. (brushing KABYLA'S hair)

Your hair, my lady's, getting rather dry,
Some of the Russian balsam shall I try?

Kab. Well, p'rhaps you may—yet no—upon the whole,
Anything Russian's hurtful to the Pole;

The very thought my nervous system shocks,
O! would that mine were like Chubb's—safety locks!

Should I turn Grey, I'd bid the world good bye,
Zon. If you turn grey, it would be time to dye.

A marriage contract:—

Kab. Yon living charger I design for thee
If you'll consent at once to marry me.

St. Geo. I do consent so that you don't object
To grant what modern husbands now expect.

Kab. Of course, my love! What may your wishes be?

St. Geo. Oh! a cigar in-doors, and a latch key!

Kab. The former is a secondary matter,
But there's a deal of mischief in the latter.

Latch keys cause men without restraint to roam;
For there's no knowing when they do get home.



MR. PAUL BEDFORD, AS THE "DRAGON."

The miseries of royalty:—

Pto. Silence! What I can't my majesty walk out
But after me you raise this horrid rout!
Upon my daughter's nerves I'm sure it jars:
The soldiers all seem *bravos* or *hussars*!

Sab. You're right, papa; I dread the cannon's roar:
'Tis the old dose, "the powder, as before,"
A princess now, no matter if it suits her,
Can't move, but some artillery man salutes her.

An insurance-office:—

St. Geo. Is this the office? yes, I'm pretty sure it is—
[Seeing Dragon]

Oh! I beg pardon; do you buy securities?

Dra. Why that depends on what they are, young man,
I'm willing to do business if I can;

For anything I'll give a price that's fair,
From an old coat up to a Railway share!

St. Geo. I've coal shares, sir, in the Talacra concern,
Such coals you'll find, there regular bricks to burn.

The Portland Vase affair:—

Pto. Off with the Dragon's head, its proper place
Is the Museum, under a glass case.

St. Geo. If as a curiosity they take it
To the Museum, somebody may break it.

The piece was entirely successful, and reflects great credit upon all parties concerned in its production. The applause, when the curtain fell, was genuine and continuous; and Miss Woolgar, Mr. Wright, and Mr. Paul Bedford, were called for, and loudly welcomed by the audience.

Our illustration will be best accompanied by a quotation from the libretto:—

St. Geo. The lady's hand sure prize enough will be—
(about to take Sabra's hand)

Alm. (interferes)

Hollo! young man, you'll take that after me.

DUET.—ST. GEORGE AND ALMIDOR.

St. Geo. I'll thank you to mention, if it's your intention,
In that lady's affection my rival to be?

For if it is sir, I'll only say this, sir,

Consider you're horsewhipp'd this moment by me.

Alm. The lady has taste, sir, she'll ne'er be disgraced, sir,
By wedding with one who's so horribly vain.

So pray, sir, take warning, or else, some fine morning,
'Twill be pistols for two, so don't do it again.

Both. Don't, &c.

PRINCESS'

A five-act tragic drama, attributed to Dr. Bird, which has been some time underlined in the bills of this house, was produced on Wednesday evening, under the title of "Metamora, the Last of the Wampanoags," and was completely successful. But this success must be attributed entirely to the very effective performance of Mr. Forrest in the character of Metamora, the last of a tribe of Red Men, driven from their hunting grounds, and humbled, by the incursions of the "pale faces." As a literary production, the drama itself was most contemptible. Crammed with melodramatic fustian to a degree which would be laughed at, if brought out at the Surrey or Victoria; and abounding in sudden entries, fights, unexplained catastrophes, and improbable situations—of that very hacknied kind which have long furnished our burlesque authors with some of their most palpable hits: we were certainly astonished at the patience of the audience. The acting of Mr. Forrest, however, overcame all these unfavourable adjuncts. We presume it to be the most perfect impersonation of the Indian ever represented. And in this we speak advisedly: indeed, there was a spirit in the whole performance which looked like truth. It is certainly the best character in which we have yet seen him; and we imagine this to be his proper line. Mrs. Stirling, as his wife Nahmeohee, is entitled to a share of our praise; her acting was touching and natural. Miss Stanley and Mr. Granby were also effective in two comparatively small parts, but here our commendation must end; the greater portion of what the others had to say, being conveyed to the audience by the prompter, who must have been fully occupied. Mr. Forrest was loudly called for and cheered at the end of the drama: and Mr. H. Wallack announced it for repetition three times a week, without a dissentient voice. In spite of its dramatic absurdities it may be considered as a hit; but we would recommend the substitution of another performer for the unfortunate supernumerary, whose delivery of a few lines tended to increase the subdued merriment which the underplot called forth in relief to Mr. Forrest's really impassioned and startling performance.



SCENE FROM THE BURLESQUE OF "WHITTINGTON AND HIS CAT," AT THE LYCEUM THEATRE.

The performance of a Mr. Sands, and his infant brother, Maurice, followed. They are a very clever pair, and, in some of their *travaux de force*, certainly go beyond those accomplished by Mr. Risley and his little boy. And then came a "new grand Oriental melo-dramatic burlesque extravaganza," called "Timour, the Cream of all the Tartars," founded on G. M. Lewis's celebrated spectacle of the same name, which, in spite of some costly dresses and very picturesque scenery by Mr. Beverley, was a heavy affair, and, in our opinion, not so funny as the original piece. The great fault consisted in going too much upon technical jokes, which had reference to the *coulisses* rather than the audience. We mention the following as specimens of what we mean:—

The Princess' trumpet:—
 Tim. Well, I know it;
 I saw young Keatley, at the side wing, blow it.
 Sel. Where are the horses, who is the groom?
 Lis. Phil Stone has got them ready, in his room.
 Superbly form'd, their necks are taper—
 Sel. Their breed is—
 Lis. Bradwell out of Paper.

Now this may create a laugh behind the scenes, but as the general audience, for whose diversion a burlesque may be popularly supposed to be written, have but indefinite ideas respecting Mr. Keatley, jun., and Phil Stone—no doubt highly respectable and talented individuals in their way—we do not see that much is gained by bringing them before the public. The effect of this style of esoteric joking was palpable in the last burlesque produced here, where not even Mr. Beckett's tact could make the audience laugh at allusions about which they had very hazy notions.

Au reste, there are plenty of hits at the prevalent things of the day; and a little more attention to the manner of putting them, and uniform number of feet in the metre, would have enhanced their effect. However, we are bound to record the piece as successful, and have no doubt but that it will, for a time, attract the holiday makers, if not quite up to the standard of what such a species of entertainment ought to be.

The pressure of theatrical notices this week has been so heavy, that we are compelled to postpone several until our next number. We may briefly state, that another burlesque on the "Seven Champions," by Mr. Stocqueler, was received with acclamations at the Olympic, of which we shall speak more fully in our next, together with the performances at Astley's, Sadler's Wells, the Surrey, &c., &c.

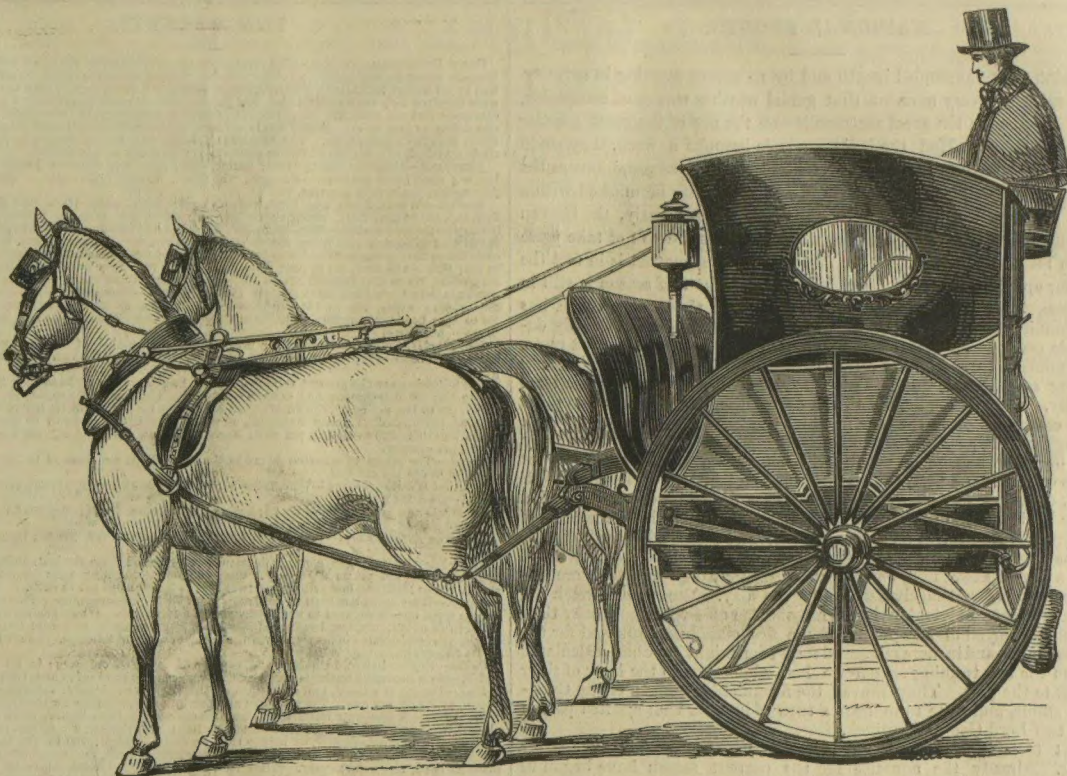
THE MYSTERIOUS LADY.

Doctor Johnson as good as avowed his belief in the second sight of the Scotch, and hundreds of scientific men, both here and on the Continent,



THE MYSTERIOUS LADY.

have given their testimony to the reality of clairvoyance. Now and then, collusions between parties have been detected, which have cast suspicion and contempt on the system or art, or whatever it may be called, but a new vindicator of its claims to respectful notice has come forward in the person of *The Mysterious Lady*, who certainly throws all her predecessors into the shade, by the unerring performance of her truly wonderful feats. On Monday last, in Piccadilly, her marvellous powers were shown to a numerous assemblage of closely-watching *qui vive* persons, whose eyes and ears were wide awake to detect deception, but who ultimately confessed to one another that their incredulity was somewhat shaken, and that though they could not for a moment imagine the laws of Nature to be laid aside, yet they were lost in perplexed wonder and unsatisfactory guessings, at seeing them so obviously violated. The lady sits with her back to the company, and proves that she has a perfect knowledge of every circumstance which takes place behind her, without a possibility of its being reflected, or communicated to her by any collusion, at least hitherto not detected. She can name the spots upon dice, cards, &c., held at a considerable distance from her, where she could have no possible chance of seeing them in the ordinary way. Whisper in the lowest breath imaginable, and she will repeat your words with unerring accuracy. It is a truly wonderful performance. Various have been the opinions and suggestions which we have heard given as to the probable *modus operandi* of this strange and interesting illusion, for "unreal mockery" it must be, although so marvellously plausible and truth-like. We shall revert to the subject again, for we think it one that is interesting to science in the highest degree. The juggling tricks of the gentleman, though clever in themselves, we think rather injure the performances of the lady.



THE NEW CURRICLE TRIBUS.

THE CURRICLE TRIBUS.

This elegant street carriage has just been patented by Mr. Harvey, of Westminster Bridge-road. As its name indicates, it is drawn by two horses, and will accommodate three persons. It may be made an open or close carriage, at pleasure; it is so light in draught, that even a slight

horse will work well in it. The shafts are made to shift with ease to give place to a pole, when it becomes a curricule for a pair of horses. The body hangs low, particularly safe, and the coachman's seat is so placed as to give him command of the reins, and enable him, at the same time, to open and shut the door.

THE COMING SPRING.

Solvitur acris hyems gratâ vice veris et Favoni.—Horat.

The cowslip bells will open soon,
 The sweet birds' song be all in tune—
 The hedge-banks with primroses gay,
 Although 'tis yet a month to May!

But April is a handmaid kind,
 And if she can, no wintry wind
 Shall blight her buds, or e'en delay
 The garland she prepares for May!

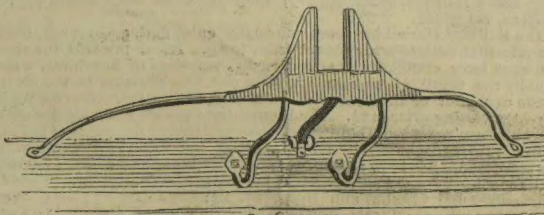
With smiles and tears she'll tend her brood,
 In garden, meadow, and in wood;
 And rear them up, all smiling, gay,
 To welcome the return of May!

Oh! could we thus each year impart
 New blossom to the wither'd heart,
 Who'd ever wish to flee away
 If ev'ry winter brought its May?

W.

NEW BOAT.

Messrs. Searle, boatbuilders, at Stangate, have just constructed a boat of a very peculiar description. She is an eight-oared cutter, of the extraordinary length of 60 feet, that being 7 feet more than usual; and 2 feet 10 inches across in the widest part. She is an outrigger, built on the same principle as the boat brought from Newcastle by the Claspers, and used at the Thames Regatta. The mould of Messrs. Searle's boat is very peculiar; her extraordinary length gives her more speed, and enables her to hold her way better, which has been already proved in a trial trip to Putney, where she passed several steamers.



PROJECTING ROWLOCK.

NEW LIFE BUOY.

Mr. T. D. Armitage, of Louth, has just patented an improved life-preserver, designated the "Yarborough Life Buoy," from the Earl of Yarborough, R.Y.S., having recommended its use by merchantmen, &c. This preserver has also been tested and approved by her Majesty's Navy. Its materials consist of pieces of cork, curled hair, and a peculiarly-formed air-chamber; and, its outer circumference tapering off



NEW LIFE BUOY.

and being much narrower than the inner one, it is stated to make greater way through the water than other life-preservers on a similar plan. It is also simple, will stow easily on a ship's quarter, inside or outside, and will float and support more men than other inventions of its class. The mode of its use is shown in our Illustration.



NEW BOAT.

NATIONAL SPORTS.

THE MARKETS.

A winter of unexampled length and by no means wanting in severity broke up at the very moment that genial weather was most acceptable, to the dwellers in the great metropolis—on the eve of the great popular festival of Easter. Had the holiday people bespoke a week, they could not have been better accommodated: if only fate was as propitious as the element, the opening of their season in 1845, will long be marked with a white stone. In consequence of Easter falling so early, the Craven Meeting, which generally begins on Easter Monday, does not take place till the 14th of April—and as the first week at Newmarket is in fact the drawing up of the curtain for legitimate racing, the turf season is still in abeyance. In the meanwhile its winter edition, the steeple chase, has been running a very general career, in some instances with extremely deplorable results. At Worcester, two horses were killed in different races, and on different days, on the same spot. There is hardly a steeple-chase meeting at which some fatal casualty does not occur—indeed the term casualty, is scarce applicable to the destruction of horses in these races across country. From the pace at which the leaps are taken, it is always odds against their getting safe over, and should they catch or strike any bank or other substance which will not give way, the speed ensures serious consequences from the concussion. We are none of the squeamish school, either as regards the rough business or the hardy sports of life, but we hold the steeple-chase to be a pastime in which the noblest of all animals is engaged in an issue with cruel and unfair odds against him, and the sooner it joins the obsolete list of our recreations the better. It is not a degree above bull baiting and prize fighting—and they are unfathomably below the civilisation of the day. During the week the Northampton and Pytchley hunt races came off—with more *clat* than they have enjoyed of late years. Some first class horses showed for the various stakes, and in more advanced form than might have been calculated on from the bad training season we had almost up to the hour of their coming to the post. They proved the formidable strength of the Goodwood stable, and seem to indicate a turn of luck for that spirited patron of the turf Lord George Bentinck.

Next to racing, as a summer sport, is yachting, and its twin-sister rowing. Already the aquatics for the current season have begun in earnest—witness the Oxford and Cambridge match, and the yachts of the R. T. Y. C., have tested their trim by a social trip down the river. The prospects of that club are fast approaching the palmy position such a society should hold in the metropolis of the aquatic world. During the last twelve months it has enrolled among its members many of the most distinguished names connected with the pleasure-marine of the country, and at every meeting at which members are balloted for, new applicants are announced as candidates for the honour of admission. Active demonstrations have been given of a determination to support the character of the Thames Regatta. Large subscriptions have been received and men of the right sort elected to superintend it. A sum not much short of a thousand pounds will be applicable to its uses. As yet no cricket matches have been made for the approaching season; here and there a provincial set-to has come off "for love," but serious business will soon begin. Such is a brief epitome of the positions and promise of our manly sports at this equivocal period when they hang partially suspended between their seasonable order. The days of the chase are all but numbered—as soon as its "who-whoop," shall have been given, Diana and her train will be found disporting in fresh fields and pastures new. Very little metropolitan business is ever done in the betting market during Easter week. Some slight changes may be attributed to the Northampton Meeting—such as an advance of *Sorella* for the Chester Cup of fifty per cent.—but the extent of its influence will not be felt before Monday next at Tattersall's.

TATTERSALL'S.

MONDAY.—The omission of several of the leading favourites for the two great events, renders it unnecessary to dwell upon the unparalleled dullness of business this afternoon. Suffice it that no particular feeling was shown, either in favour of, or against any of the horses mentioned below, and that the investments were as paltry in amount as they were small in number; betting, in short, was nominal.

TWO THOUSAND GUINEA STAKES.			
5 to agst 1d as (t).			
20 to 1 agst his winning this and the Derby (t).			
NORTHAMPTON HANDICAP.			
4 to 1 agst Napier	7 to 1 agst Discord	8 to 1 agst Bastion	
6 to 1 Lord Saltoun	7 to 1 Father Mathew	10 to 1 Sparsbolt	
Even on four agst the field.			
CHESTER CUP.			
8 to 1 agst the Irish lot	35 to 1 agst Old Ireland (t)	50 to 1 agst Patriot	
11 to 1 Semiseria	40 to 1 Portrait (t)	66 to 1 Exbraganza	
12 to 1 Citracat	40 to 1 Fitz-Allen	100 to 1 Cabrin Boy (t)	
13 to 1 The Era			
DERBY.			
12 to 1 agst Forth's lot	20 to 1 agst Cobweb colt	50 to 1 agst Titmouse (t)	
14 to 1 Idas	40 to 1 Young Eclipse	100 to 1 Yellow Boy	
16 to 1 Clear-the-Way (t)	50 to 1 Furbois (t)	100 to 1 Roebuck (t)	
500 even on the field agst Idas, Pam, Clear-the-Way, Kedger, Miss Whip, News-monger, Pantaea, Doleful, and Titmouse.			

THURSDAY.—The half-dozen bets laid on the Derby do not admit of a quotation; and although we subjoin a list of prices on the Two Thousand Guinea Stakes and Chester Cup, it is with some misgivings as to their being in accordance with the actual state of the market.

TWO THOUSAND GUINEA STAKES.			
5 to 2 agst Idas (t).			
3 to 1 agst Kedger			
CHESTER CUP.			
8 to 1 agst the Irish lot	25 to 1 agst Winecup (t)	40 to 1 agst Pride of Kildare (t)	
10 to 1 Semiseria	25 to 1 Strathpey	45 to 1 Patriot	
12 to 1 Obscurity	28 to 1 Celeste	66 to 1 Foigh-a-Ballagh	
15 to 1 The Era	33 to 1 Old Ireland	4000 to 80 agst Roe's lot (t)	

NORTHAMPTON AND PYTCHLEY HUNT RACES.
The races, which are limited to two days, commenced on Tuesday, with favourable weather, a full and fashionable company, and a bill of fare satisfactory alike in amount and variety.
The Trial Stakes of 10 sovs each, with 40 added.
Mr. Osbaldeston's *Sorella*, 4 yrs, 8st 6lb (F. Butler) 1
Lord G. Bentinck's *Clumsy*, 3 yrs, 6st 2
The Althorp Stakes of 10 sovs each, with 30 added.
Lord G. Bentinck's *Cherokee* (Nat) 1
Lord Spencer's *Crupper* 2
The Great Northamptonshire Stakes of 25 sovs each, with 100 added.
Lord G. Bentinck's *Discord*, aged, 8st (Nat) 1
Mr. F. Ongley's *Roderick*, 6 yrs, 6st 10lb 2
The Tallyho Stakes of 25 sovs each, 10 ft.
Mr. W. Manning and br c by D'Egville, out of *Mosselle's* dam, 3 yrs, 8st 9lb (Mr. Rolt) 1
Mr. Wesley's *Solitude*, 3 yrs, 8st 6lb bolted
The Farmers' Cup, for horses not thorough bred, &c. Heats.
Mr. Manning's *Mirth*, 6 yrs, 11st 9lb (Lebird) 1
Mr. Cowley's *The Hackney*, aged, 11st 11lb 2
Mr. Whitlock's *Single Peep*, aged, 11st 11lb 3
The Tallyho Stakes.—The stewards have overruled the objection, and awarded the stakes to the horse that came in first.

WEDNESDAY.

The meeting was brought to a close in a style that must have fully satisfied all those who have been instrumental to its restoration. The weather was delightful, the sport excellent, and the attendance quite as numerous as on the first day. We may venture to predict that under so zealous and competent a management, with such staunch, liberal, and influential supporters as Lords Spencer, Chesterfield, Southampton, G. Bentinck, and Cardigan; Sir C. Knightley, Col. Anson, Messrs. Paynes and Bouvier (we make but a selection from a long list of patrons), with a most complete stand, and one of the best of race courses, Northampton must become the best spring provincial meeting in the kingdom. The following are the results of Wednesday's races:—
The Open Stakes of 10 sovs each, with 25 added.
Lord Chesterfield's *New Brighton*, 5 yrs, 10st 12lb (Mr. E. Haworth) 1
Mr. Standwell's *Gipsy*, 6 yrs, 11st 2lb 2
Mr. T. Dawson's *Teressa*, 4 yrs, 10st 5lb 3
Her Majesty's Plate of 100 Guineas. Two miles.
Lord G. Bentinck's *John O'Gaunt*, aged, 10st 4lb (Nat) 1
Mr. Osbaldeston's *Sorella*, 4 yrs, 9st 2lb 2
The Northamptonshire Cup Stakes of 10 sovs each.
Mr. Worthington's *Hooton*, 5 yrs, 9st 7lb (Marlow) 1
Mr. Dawson's *Lord Saltoun*, 4 yrs, 8st 9lb 2
Mr. Bowerie's *Idleness*, 4 yrs, 8st 7lb 3

LEAMINGTON STEEPLE CHASES.

MONDAY.			
The Hunt Club Sweepstakes of 10 sovs each, h ft, with 100 added.			
Mr. Brooke's <i>Eagle</i> (Capt. Peel) 1			
Col. Gooch's <i>Newmarket</i> 2			
Match, 100 sovs; 3 miles.			
Mr. Nunn's <i>The Friar</i> (Capt. Peel) 1			
Captain Windsor's <i>Major A.</i> Capt. Kennedy fell			
Sweepstakes of 8 sovs each, with a Whip added for the second.			
Mr. P. P. Rolt's <i>Nimrod</i> (Owner) 1			
Mr. Sheldon's <i>Dudu</i> 2			

CORN EXCHANGE (Friday).—The returns for the present week show full average arrivals of English wheat for our market; yet the number of samples of that grain on offer this morning was by no means extensive. The attendance of buyers being small, only the finest qualities were required for; such commanded full prices; but all other kinds were a mere drug, and clearance was not effected. In fine foreign wheat, as well as grain under lock, next to nothing was doing, at late rates. Barley and malt were in moderate supply, and sluggish request, at about Monday's quotations. The arrivals of Irish oats having been very extensive, the oat trade was depressed, and the price of 6d per quarter. Other grains as follows:—
ARRIVALS.—English: wheat, 11,880; barley, 4,860; oats, 4,050 quarters. Irish: wheat, —; barley, —; oats, 5,530 quarters. Foreign: wheat, —; barley, 1,020; oats, — quarters. Flour, 7,930 sacks; malt, 6,020 quarters.
English: Wheat, Essex and Kent, red, 46s to 48s; ditto, white, 46s to 54s; Norfolk and Suffolk, red, 46s to 48s; ditto, white, 46s to 47s; 30s to 36s; grinding barley, 27s to 30s; ditto, tilling, 26s to 30s; maiting ditto, 33s to 35s; Lincoln and Norfolk malt, 55s to 63s; brown ditto, 56s to 60s; Kingston and Ware, 59s to 60s; Chevalier, 65s; Yorkshire and Lincolnshire feed oats, 23s to 25s; potatoes ditto, 23s to 24s; Trough and Cork, black, 20s to 22s; ditto, white, 21s to 23s; tick beans, new, 34s to 36s; ditto, old, 35s to 40s; grey peas, 34s to 36s; maple, 35s to 36s; white, 35s to 38s; bolters, 36s to 38s, per quarter. Town made flour, 42s to —; Suffolk, Stockton, and Yorkshire, 33s to 35s, per 23 lb. Foreign:—Fine wheat, — to —; Dantz, red, 38s to 45s; white, 50s to 54s. In Bond.—Barley, 20s to 24s; oats, 17s to 18s; ditto, feed, 16s to 17s; beans, 24s to 29s; peas, 23s to 32s, per quarter. Flour, American, 19s to —; Baltic, 18s to —, per barrel.
Seed Market.—Notwithstanding the present advanced period of the year, we have scarcely any transactions to report in any kind of seeds, the prices of which are with difficulty supported.
The following are the present rates:—Lined English, sowing, 52s to 58s; Baltic, crushing, 40s to 45s; Mediterranean and Odessa — to —. Hempseed, 35s to 38s, per quarter. Corn:—White, 42s to 44s; ditto, 41s to 42s; white ditto, 40s to 41s. Tares, 6s to 7s 6d, per bushel. English Rapeseed, new, 42s to 43s, per last of 10, for fine Holland; and 40s to 41s, per last of 10, for Kiel. The bacon market is steady, and some few large hams have been made at 1s per cwt more money. Prime sizeable Waterford, landed, has sold at 41s to 45s; heavy, 40s to 43s per cwt. Several large sales have been concluded for forward shipment. The best Irish hams, as usual, move off freely; but, in other kinds of provisions, the transactions have been limited.
Tallow.—This market, though a fair business is doing, is heavy as to price. P.Y.C., on the spot, is selling at 38s 6d to 39s. Town tallow, 39s to 40s, net cash.
Cattle.—Best Wiltshire, 20s 6d to 21s 3d; other sorts, 14s to 19s 6d per ton.
Hays and Sticks.—Coarse meadow hay, 43 10s to 44 14s; useful ditto, 44 15s to 45 4s; fine upland ditto, 45 3s to 45 10s; clover hay, 44 10s to 45; oat straw, 11 15s to 12 0s; wheat straw, 42 0s to 42 3s per load.
Potatoes.—The best kinds of potatoes move off steadily, at 65s to 80s per ton. Most other qualities are heavy.
Hops (Friday).—For the best hops in pockets, of last year's growth, as well as old olds, a fair demand has been shown on the market, at 5s per cwt. In all other kinds of hops next to nothing is doing. The present rates are as follow:—Sussex Pockets, 47 2s to 48 5s; Wexford, 47 5s to 48 0s; Mid Kent, 48 0s to 48 10s; East Kent, 47 10s to 48 5s; Chichester ditto, 48 0s to 48 12s; Mid Kent bags, 47 15s to 48 12s; East Kent ditto, 48 0s to 48 12s.
Smoked Meat.—The supply of beasts in to-day's market being considerably more than adequate to meet the wants of the buyers, we have to report an unusually heavy demand for beef, at prices barely equal to those obtained on Monday. There were on offer 60 oxen and cows from Holland, and 100 Scots from Scotland, all in excellent condition. The numbers of sheep seasonably extensive. Prime Downs sold heavily at Monday's currencies; but other kinds were 2s per lb less, and the trade next to nothing was doing, and the rates of other kinds were 2s per lb less. The real trade was excessively dull, a depression of 4d per lb. In pigs next to nothing was doing. Milch cows were held at from 47 10s to 49 10s, including their small calf.
Per 8lbs, to sink the offal:—Coarse and inferior beams, 2s 4d to 2s 6d; second quality ditto, 2s 6d to 2s 10d; prime large ditto, 2s 10d to 3s 0d; prime small ditto, 2s 10d to 3s 0d; coarse and inferior beef, 2s 4d to 3s 0d; second quality ditto, 3s 0d to 3s 6d; prime large beef, 3s 6d to 4s 0d; prime small beef, 3s 6d to 4s 0d; large hogs, 3s 6d to 4s 0d; neat small porkers, 3s 10d to 4s 2d; lambs, 4s 4d to 6s 0d. Suckling calves, 18s 0d to 20s 0d; and quarter old store pigs, 16s 0d to 18s 0d. Cows, 60s to 140s; sheep and lambs, 57s 0d; calves, 13s; pigs, 3s 0d.
Newgate and Leadenhall (Friday).—We had rather an extensive supply of meat, male here to-day, owing to which the general demand was heavy, at drooping currencies:—Inferior beef, 2s 2d to 2s 4d; middling ditto, 2s 6d to 2s 8d; prime large ditto, 2s 10d to 3s 0d; prime small ditto, 2s 10d to 3s 0d; large pork, 2s 8d to 3s 4d; inferior mutton, 2s 6d to 2s 10d; middling ditto, 3s 0d to 3s 4d; prime ditto, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; veal, 3s 6d to 4s 6d; small pork, 3s 6d to 4s 2d; lamb, 4s 6d to 5s 10d—per 8lbs, by the carcass.
ROBERT HARRIS.

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Smoked Meat.—The supply of beasts in to-day's market being considerably more than adequate to meet the wants of the buyers, we have to report an unusually heavy demand for beef, at prices barely equal to those obtained on Monday. There were on offer 60 oxen and cows from Holland, and 100 Scots from Scotland, all in excellent condition. The numbers of sheep seasonably extensive. Prime Downs sold heavily at Monday's currencies; but other kinds were 2s per lb less, and the trade next to nothing was doing, and the rates of other kinds were 2s per lb less. The real trade was excessively dull, a depression of 4d per lb. In pigs next to nothing was doing. Milch cows were held at from 47 10s to 49 10s, including their small calf.

Per 8lbs, to sink the offal:—Coarse and inferior beams, 2s 4d to 2s 6d; second quality ditto, 2s 6d to 2s 10d; prime large ditto, 2s 10d to 3s 0d; prime small ditto, 2s 10d to 3s 0d; coarse and inferior beef, 2s 4d to 3s 0d; second quality ditto, 3s 0d to 3s 6d; prime large beef, 3s 6d to 4s 0d; prime small beef, 3s 6d to 4s 0d; large hogs, 3s 6d to 4s 0d; neat small porkers, 3s 10d to 4s 2d; lambs, 4s 4d to 6s 0d. Suckling calves, 18s 0d to 20s 0d; and quarter old store pigs, 16s 0d to 18s 0d. Cows, 60s to 140s; sheep and lambs, 57s 0d; calves, 13s; pigs, 3s 0d.

Newgate and Leadenhall (Friday).—We had rather an extensive supply of meat, male here to-day, owing to which the general demand was heavy, at drooping currencies:—Inferior beef, 2s 2d to 2s 4d; middling ditto, 2s 6d to 2s 8d; prime large ditto, 2s 10d to 3s 0d; prime small ditto, 2s 10d to 3s 0d; large pork, 2s 8d to 3s 4d; inferior mutton, 2s 6d to 2s 10d; middling ditto, 3s 0d to 3s 4d; prime ditto, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; veal, 3s 6d to 4s 6d; small pork, 3s 6d to 4s 2d; lamb, 4s 6d to 5s 10d—per 8lbs, by the carcass.

ROBERT HARRIS.

MONETARY TRANSACTIONS OF THE WEEK.

(From our City Correspondent.)
The South Sea Company have declared a bonus of six per cent., and intend to continue the Company's affairs.

Business was very dull in the English house at the commencement of the week, and prices nearly inactive. The news, on Wednesday, of the resolution passed in the United States Senate for the Annexation of Texas, had, however, an immediate effect upon the market. The speculators commenced selling, and Consols receded to 99½, a fall of one per cent. A slight re-action on Thursday improved prices during the morning, but at closing they had again receded, and have not since shown an indication of increasing firmness. Consols last quote 99½ to 99 for money, and 99½ for time. Exchequer Bills continue to fluctuate between 58s and 61s, closing about the latter price. Reduced quotes 100½, and new Three-and-a-quarter per Cents., 104½. Prices, in the Foreign Market, remained at the previous week's quotations until Tuesday, when a sudden rise in Colombian gave a slight impulse to speculation. The cause of the advance could not be ascertained, but was attributed by one party to some favourable advices received by the Committee on the arrival of the last West India Mail, and by others, to the increasing favour of a project, for improving the communication across the Isthmus of Panama. In the first case no reason can be assigned for keeping the information secret if it was received, and the latter appears to be so distant a contingency as to almost place it out of the bounds of even speculators' reasonings. The price, however, rose at one period to 15½, but receded a point before the close of business. Mexican, upon the arrival of the American news, on Wednesday, receded one per cent., and have not recovered, closing finally at 30½. Spanish Actives have quoted, and continue to quote, 30½; the Three Per Cents 40½ to 7. Portuguese is rather flat; closing at 60½, having gradually receded since Monday from 67 to 68. Dutch Two-and-a-Half per-Cents. are 62½; Four per Cent. Certificates, 99½; and Belgian, 101 to 102.

The Railway Market has been unusually quiet during the week, many of the principal dealers being absent from town. Prices towards the close of the week have consequently shown some symptoms of heaviness, which is usually the result of absence of business. The decision of the Board of Trade in favour of the Harwich line caused a little animation on Wednesday—the closing price is 2½. The French lines are all flat from the effect of the American news, and the unsatisfactory position of the Ministry in France. Considerable speculation continues in the Shrewsbury and Birmingham line—the last quotation is 4½ to 5. Churnett Valleys have advanced to 7; Cambridge and Lincoln, 7 to 7½; Aberdeens close at 3½; Bristol and Exeter 82½ Caledonian, 92; Chester and Holyhead, 82; Cornwall, 44; Diss, Beccles, and Yarmouth, 24; Direct Northern, 42; Dublin and Galway, 3; Eastern Counties, 21½; Edinburgh and Glasgow, 62½; Great Western, 180½; Birmingham Stock, 232; Blackwall, 73; Brighton, 62½; Croydon, 174; South Western, 70½; London and York, 3; Manchester and Leeds, 143; Midlands, 42½; Newark and Sheffield, 42; North British, 17; Richmond and West End Junction, 3½; Rugby, 42; Scottish Midland, 2½; South Devon, 20; Dovers, 42½; South Wales, 6; Trent Valley, 17; Waterford and Kilkenny, 3½; Boulogne and Amiens, 11½; Bordeaux and Toulouse, 2½; Bordeaux, Toulouse, and Cetti, 2½; Great Northern of France, 6; Orleans and Vierzon, 174; Orleans and Bordeaux, 10½; Paris and Lyons, 2½; Paris and Orleans (Lafitte's), 50½; Sombre and Meuse, 64; Tours and Nantes, 3.
SATURDAY MORNING.—There was nothing of importance in any of the markets yesterday, prices remaining at former quotations.

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

TUESDAY, MARCH 25.

DECLARATION OF INSOLVENCY.—J. FRITCHARD, Lillishall, Shropshire, builder. BANKRUPT.—J. CRISP, Tower-street, wine-merchant. W. HODGES, King's-head-yard, Duke-street, Blombury, hide and skin dealer. S. MAY, Myddel-street, Clerkenwell, watch manufacturer. T. OVEY, Walcott-square, Surrey, maltster. W. E. JAKMAN, Exeter, confectioner. C. MARTIN, Durham, linen-draper. J. JONES, Cheshire, fellsomner. M. COFFEY, Liverpool, victualler. J. RIKY, Liverpool, merchant. W. LEDIARD, Wellington, Shropshire, coach proprietor. B. ROBINSON, Burton-upon-Trent, Staffordshire, draper.

SCOTCH SEQUESTERATIONS.—J. WILSON and CO., Edinburgh, general merchants. J. McALLUM, Newburgh, Fifeshire, ship-owner.

FRIDAY, MARCH 25.

WAR-OFFICE, MARCH 25.—3rd Dragoon Guards: Capt. G. F. Stuart, to be Captain, vice Rodon. 7th: Ensign C. J. B. Plestow to be Cornet, vice Petre. 2nd Dragoons: Capt. G. C. Clarke to be Captain, vice H. M. Campbell. 1st Foot: Staff Surgeon of the Second Class G. G. Robertson, M.D., to be Surgeon, vice Dartnell. 10th: Brevet Colonel Sir G. Couper, Bart., to be Lieutenant-Colonel, vice Luard. Major T. H. Franks to be Lieutenant-Colonel, vice Sir G. Couper. Capt. G. Staunton to be Major, vice Franks. Lieut. J. T. Gorie to be Captain, vice Staunton; Ensign C. J. Lindam to be Lieutenant, vice Gorie; Ensign C. Needham to be Ensign, vice Lindam. 18th: W. C. Bonning, Gentleman, to be Ensign, vice Peel. 2nd: Lieutenant R. Bruce, to be First Lieutenant, vice Wynn; J. Blakeney, to be Second Lieutenant, vice Bruce. 44th: Captain J. Rodon to be Captain, vice Stuart. 68th: R. W. Woolcombe, to be Assist.-Surgeon, vice Irving. 76th: Cadet J. C. Clarke to be Ensign, vice Plestow. 84th: D. E. Mansel, Gentleman, to be Ensign, vice Plestow. 90th: Ensign J. C. Mansel, to be Ensign, vice Plestow. 85th: Lieut. H. M'Donnell to be Lieutenant, vice Gorie; Ensign R. Mansell to be Lieutenant, vice M'Donnell; Ensign E. V. Peel to be Ensign, vice Mansell. 89th: Major E. Thorp to be Lieutenant-Colonel, vice Bouvierie; Capt. E. Kenney to be Major, vice Thorp; Lieut. W. H. Thornton to be Captain, vice Kenney; Capt. H. M. Campbell to be Captain, vice Clarke; Ensign R. E. Kennedy to be Lieutenant, vice B. Bruce to be Ensign, vice Kennedy.

HOSPITAL STAFF.—Staff Assist.-Surgeon P. Nicholson to be Staff Surgeon of the Second Class, vice Robertson; J. Mee to be Assistant Surgeon to the Forces, vice Nicholson.

BANKRUPTCY SUPERSEDED.—T. BOUTLER, Cromer, Norfolk, innkeeper. BANKRUPT.—L. JOHNSTON, Hammersmith, wine-merchant. D. MORTON, Eastcheap, City, Bashmore, draper. E. L. PHILLIPS, Finner's-court, Old Broad-street, City, tailor. G. GARDNER, Gravesend, tavern-keeper. J. WOODHEAD and D. WOODHEAD, Huddersfield, woollen-cloth manufacturers.

BIRTHS.
At Chickensda Priory, the Lady Elizabeth Osborn, of a son.—In Innes-street, the Lady of Lieutenant Colonel Tronson (late Prince Albert's Light Infantry), of a son.—At Keenington, the wife of Oliver Henry Davis, Esq., of a daughter.—At Bath, the wife of John Walter, jun., Esq., of a son.—Viscountess Campden of a daughter.—At Florence, the lady of Russell Kendall, Esq., of a son.

MARRIAGES.
At St. Marylebone, Frank Rowe, Esq., Royal Engineer, to Louisa Charlotte, eldest daughter of the Rev. R. Rede Rede, Suffolk.—At St. Peter's Church, Eaton-square, the Hon. Cornwallis Maude, 2nd Life Guards, to Clementina Elphinstone, daughter of the late Admiral the Hon. Charles Fleming.—At Hampton, Captain Berners, to Elizabeth Jane, eldest daughter of the late Vice-Admiral Sir Charles Paget.

DEATHS.
At Berkeley-house, Hyde-park, Edward Bliss, Esq., late High Sheriff and Magistrate of Suffolk, aged 70.—At Charnwood Rectory, Charles Arnott, Esq., formerly of Rushington, Hunts, aged 57.—George Westerman, Esq., of Castle-grove, Sandal, near Wakefield, in the 81st year of his age.—At Bath, aged 52, the Rev. William Pace, A.M., for upwards of 40 years rector of Ransham and Wroxall, in the county of Dorset.—At Islington, Mrs. Duthoit, relict of the late Peter Duthoit, Esq.—In the 96th year of his age, the Rev. John Hides Groom, A.M., rector of Earl Soham and Monk Soham, Suffolk.—At Leigh Court, near Bristol, in the 72nd year of his age, Philip John Miles, Esq.—Sudley, James Gray Mayhew, Esq., in his 75th year.—In Welbeck-street, George Nathaniel Best, Esq., senior bencher of the Middle Temple, aged 78.—At Brighton, James Cranbourne Strode, Esq., aged 68.—George Augustus Kollman, Esq., organist of Her Majesty's Royal German Chapel, St. James's Palace, and of the Chapel of the Cross, near Manchester, in the 71st year of his age, Sir Thomas Potter, Knight Justice of the Peace for the county of Lancaster, and Alderman of the borough of Manchester. G. Norman, Esq., aged 74, for many years of the Alderman of the borough of Manchester, and Taxes.—In Nottingham-place, Major Byron, of the 34th Regiment.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

ASTLEY'S ROYAL AMPHITHEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Batty. Triumphant Success of the New Spectacle. Monday, March 31st, at Seven o'clock, will be produced, the 8th time, the Spectacle of the MAID OF SARA-GOSSA. New Scenery, Dresses, &c. Entire Change of the Scenes of the Circle, introducing Mons. and Madame Dumas, the celebrated French Equestrians. To conclude with the Farce of the SLEEPING DRAUGHT. Box Office open from 11 till 5.

PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY.—Hanover Square Rooms.—The Subscribers and the Public are respectfully informed, that the CONCERTS will commence TO-MORROW EVENING, the 31st Inst.—Single Tickets, One Guinea, and Double Tickets, £1 10s., may be had at the Music Warehouse of Messrs Addison and Henson, 210, Regent-street.

MR. LOVER'S IRISH EVENINGS.—On FRIDAY next, APRIL 4th, Mr. LOVER will give his Popular Entertainment—entitled, PADDY BY LAND AND SEA—at the MARYBONE LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC INSTITUTION, 17, Edwards-street, Portman-square. To commence at 8 o'clock.—Tickets, 2s. each, and Programmes, may be obtained at the Library of the Institution.

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Songs, as sung by Mr. Wilson in his Popular Entertainments, arranged with Piano-forte accompaniments, including "O' Bothwell Banks," "Bessy Bell and Mary Gray," "Good night and joy be wi' ye," "Wood and married an' a'," "The Min trel Boy," &c. &c. &c.

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For Music for the Million, or 4d. post free. Cheapest Work published. Duncams, 10, Middle-row, Holborn, and all Booksellers.

LESSONS IN MILLINERY AND DRESSMAKING.—Mrs'

HOWELL, of 304, Regent-street, two doors from Margaret-street, sole inventress of teaching the art of Dressmaking in a series of Lessons, undertakes to convey to persons of the meanest capacity a correct knowledge of cutting, fitting, and executing, in the most finished style, in Six Lessons, for One Guinea. The correctness of this mode can be fully substantiated by reference to pupils. Apprentices and Improvers Wanted.—Millinery and Dress Rooms.

CHILDREN'S AND INVALID'S CARRIAGES.—Invalid

Wheel Chairs of numerous designs, from 43 to 43s., second-hand as well as new, which can be had with wheels of leather, Mackintosh, or canvas. Long Bed, or Spinal Carriages, and Self-acting Wheel Chairs. On Sale or Hire. Children's Chaises, Vis-a-Vis Wagons of varied builds, Phaetons, Barouches, and other designs, from Ten Shillings to Twenty Guineas.—INGRAM'S Manufactory, 29, City-road, Finsbury-square.

SYLPHIDE PARASOLS.—The elegance of form, lightness,

and simplicity of construction of the SYLPHIDE PARASOL, having caused it to be patronised to such an extent last year, it has been manufactured in every style for the present season, and may be procured at all respectable drapers and parasol dealers in the kingdom, at the same price as those of the ordinary construction. These Parasols, which are warranted not to get out of order, are of the following description:—W. and J. SANGSTER, patentees, 40, Regent-street, and 10, Royal Exchange.

NOW READY, FOR THE SPRING AND SUMMER,

BERDOE'S VENTILATING WATERPROOF FROCKS.—

These well-known and gentlemanly garments will be found light and most agreeable substitutes for any other outside coat. They are made in the best manner, and are thoroughly respectable—equally free from vulgarity and singularity; are guaranteed to exclude any rain whatever, and no untidy novelty, having been in extensive use among the respectable classes more than six years. A Large Stock of First-rate Garments, in new and greatly-improved materials (manufactured expressly for W. B.) now ready, of which an inspection is confidently invited.—Made only by W. BERDOE, Tailor, Waterproofer, &c., 69, Cornhill (north side).

GIBBINS' CREAM OF ROSES AND ROSEMARY.—This

esteemed and elegant Article is most respectfully offered to the Public, by GIBBINS, Court Hairdresser and Perfumer (from Paris), 7, King-street, St. James's-square, as the most delicate and effectual Preservative of the Hair. Being a pomade, it will be successfully applied in promoting its growth and luxuriance.

GIBBINS' EXTRACT OF ROSES AND ROSEMARY is a liquid made from the above-named plants, and when applied in washing the Hair, renders it soft and glossy; or, after illness, its astringent properties prevent the Hair from falling off.

No. 7, King-street, St. James's-square, London.

ANOTHER REMARKABLE CURE OF A 14 YEARS'

ASTHMA, BY DR. LOCOCK'S PULMONIC WAFERS.—Mrs. Willing, 71, Red-Cross-street, Southwark, had an Asthma for 14 years. Nothing ever gave her relief until she took Dr. Locock's Wafers, four boxes of which have all cured her.—Nov. 5, 1844.

DR. LOCOCK'S WAFERS give instant relief, and a rapid cure, of Asthma, Coughs, and all Disorders of the Breathing Lungs. TO SINGERS AND PUBLIC SPEAKERS they are invaluable, as they clear the voice, and strengthen the Voice. They have a most pleasant taste. Price is 14d., 2s. 9d., and 11s. per box. Agents, DA SILVA and Co., 1, Bridge-lane, Fleet-street, London. Sold by all Medicine Vendors.

PANKLIBANON IRON WORKS.—IMPORTANT TO

FAMILIES PURCHASING.—A considerable saving can be effected in the purchase of Furnishings, by visiting the PANKLIBANON IRON WORKS, 68, Baker-street, Portman-square, where may be inspected the most extensive Stock of Ironmongery Goods in the Kingdom, consisting of Kitchen Cooking Utensils, German Silver Wares, Drawing room Stoves, Ranges, Fenders, and Fire Irons, Table Cutlery, &c. Every article being marked in plain figures, at the lowest possible price, will fully convince purchasers at this establishment of the great advantage resulting from Cash Payments, as the Proprietors warrant every article of the best manufacture.—68, Baker-street, Portman-square.

COD LIVER OIL.—This natural Remedy, and certain Cure

for GOUT, RHEUMATISM, SCROFULA, &c. &c., is, without exception, one of the most valuable discoveries of the present age; it is prepared by a peculiar process, from the liver of the cod fish, and its use in curing the above complaints, when all other remedies have failed, is the highest medical authority; so many cases of complete cure have now been published, and so many are daily occurring, that they are now considered as the result of every day practice. Prospectuses, containing a few only of the most remarkable Cures effected, are given with each genuine bottle of this remedy, and bear the signature of the only mercantile Agents, JONES and Co., 201 Strand. Sold by all Medicine Vendors, in bottles, at 2s. 9d., 4s. 6d., and 11s. each.

SPRING NOVELTIES.—J. ALLISON has just received from

Paris, a very large assortment of the most novel and elegant articles for Ladies' Dress.

SILKS in the "Bayadere" and other new styles. MANTLETS and SCARFS, in a variety of forms; amongst others, the "Crocus" and "Chrysanthemum" patterns, the most graceful and elegant of the season, in light Summer materials. An extensive choice of French Laine Cloths, Mousseline-de-Laine, Barages, Broches, &c., in handsome new designs, and also in neat simple patterns, of the softest texture and at moderate prices. RIBBONS, LACES, COLLARS, CAPES, FANCY HANDKERCHIEFS, and a variety of other articles of taste and novelty, which Ladies are invited to inspect without being pressed to purchase.

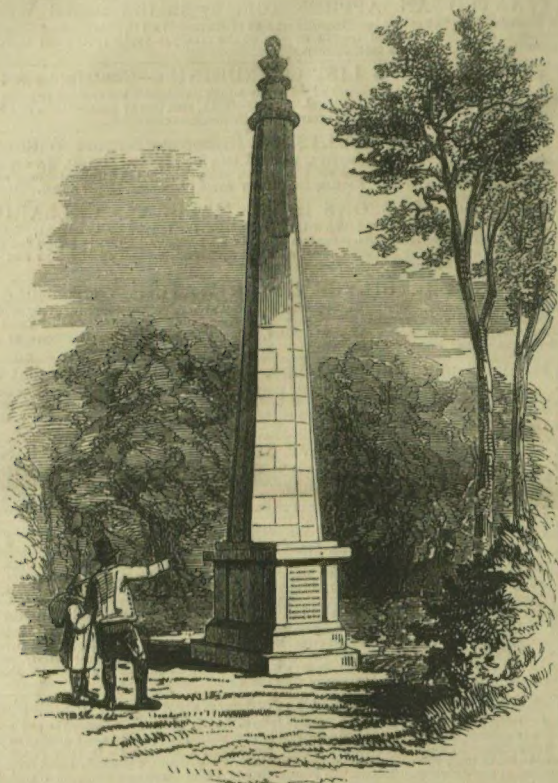
Regent House, 218 and 240, Regent-street.

BRONZED SCROLL FENDER, WITH STEEL SPEAR,

10s. RICHARD and JOHN SLACK, are now offering the most extensive and elegant assortment of Fenders in London, embracing the newest designs at prices 30 per cent. under any other house. Ornamental iron fenders, 3 feet long, 4s. 6d.; 3 feet 6 inches, 5s. 3d.; 4 feet, 6s. 3d.; 5 feet, 7s. 6d.; 6 feet, 8s. 6d.; 7 feet, 9s. 6d.; 8 feet, 10s. 6d.; 9 feet, 11s. 6d.; 10 feet, 12s. 6d.; 11 feet, 13s. 6d.; 12 feet, 14s. 6d.; 13 feet, 15s. 6d.; 14 feet, 16s. 6d.; 15 feet, 17s. 6d.; 16 feet, 18s. 6d.; 17 feet, 19s. 6d.; 18 feet, 20s. 6d.; 19 feet, 21s. 6d.; 20 feet, 22s. 6d.; 21 feet, 23s. 6d.; 22 feet, 24s. 6d.; 23 feet, 25s. 6d.; 24 feet, 26s. 6d.; 25 feet, 27s. 6d.; 26 feet, 28s. 6d.; 27 feet, 29s. 6d.; 28 feet, 30s. 6d.; 29 feet, 31s. 6d.; 30 feet, 32s. 6d.; 31 feet, 33s. 6d.; 32 feet, 34s. 6d.; 33 feet, 35s. 6d.; 34 feet, 36s. 6d.; 35 feet, 37s. 6d.; 36 feet, 38s. 6d.; 37 feet, 39s. 6d.; 38 feet, 40s. 6d.; 39 feet, 41s. 6d.; 40 feet, 42s. 6d.; 41 feet, 43s. 6d.; 42 feet, 44s. 6d.; 43 feet, 45s. 6d.; 44 feet, 46s. 6d.; 45 feet, 47s. 6d.; 46 feet, 48s. 6d.; 47 feet, 49s. 6d.; 48 feet, 50s. 6d.; 49 feet, 51s. 6d.; 50 feet, 52s. 6d.; 51 feet, 53s. 6d.; 52 feet, 54s. 6d.; 53 feet, 55s. 6d.; 54 feet, 56s. 6d.; 55 feet, 57s. 6d.; 56 feet, 58s. 6d.; 57 feet, 59s. 6d.; 58 feet, 60s. 6d.; 59 feet, 61s. 6d.; 60 feet, 62s. 6d.; 61 feet, 63s. 6d.; 62 feet, 64s. 6d.; 63 feet, 65s. 6d.; 64 feet, 66s. 6d.; 65 feet, 67s. 6d.; 66 feet, 68s. 6d.; 67 feet, 69s. 6d.; 68 feet, 70s. 6d.; 69 feet, 71s. 6d.; 70 feet, 72s. 6d.; 71 feet, 73s. 6d.; 72 feet, 74s. 6d.; 73 feet, 75s. 6d.; 74 feet, 76s. 6d.; 75 feet, 77s. 6d.; 76 feet, 78s. 6d.; 77 feet, 79s. 6d.; 78 feet, 80s. 6d.; 79 feet, 81s. 6d.; 80 feet, 82s. 6d.; 81 feet, 83s. 6d.; 82 feet, 84s. 6d.; 83 feet, 85s. 6d.; 84 feet, 86s. 6d.; 85 feet, 87s. 6d.; 86 feet, 88s. 6d.; 87 feet, 89s. 6d.; 88 feet, 90s. 6d.; 89 feet, 91s. 6d.; 90 feet, 92s. 6d.; 91 feet, 93s. 6d.; 92 feet, 94s. 6d.; 93 feet, 95s. 6d.; 94 feet, 96s. 6d.; 95 feet, 97s. 6d.; 96 feet, 98s. 6d.; 97 feet, 99s. 6d.; 98 feet, 100s. 6d.; 99 feet, 101s. 6d.; 100 feet, 102s. 6d.; 101 feet, 103s. 6d.; 102 feet, 104s. 6d.; 103 feet, 105s. 6d.; 104 feet, 106s. 6d.; 105 feet, 107s. 6d.; 106 feet, 108s. 6d.; 107 feet, 109s. 6d.; 108 feet, 110s. 6d.; 109 feet, 111s. 6d.; 110 feet, 112s. 6d.; 111 feet, 113s. 6d.; 112 feet, 114s. 6d.; 113 feet, 115s. 6d.; 114 feet, 116s. 6d.; 115 feet, 117s. 6d.; 116 feet, 118s. 6d.; 117 feet, 119s. 6d.; 118 feet, 120s. 6d.; 119 feet, 121s. 6d.; 120 feet, 122s. 6d.; 121 feet, 123s. 6d.; 122 feet, 124s. 6d.; 123 feet, 125s. 6d.; 124 feet, 126s. 6d.; 125 feet, 127s. 6d.; 126 feet, 128s. 6d.; 127 feet, 129s. 6d.; 128 feet, 130s. 6d.; 129 feet, 131s. 6d.; 130 feet, 132s. 6d.; 131 feet, 133s. 6d.; 132 feet, 134s. 6d.; 133 feet, 135s. 6d.; 134 feet, 136s. 6d.; 135 feet, 137s. 6d.; 136 feet, 138s. 6d.; 137 feet, 139s. 6d.; 138 feet, 140s. 6d.; 139 feet, 141s. 6d.; 140 feet, 142s. 6d.; 141 feet, 143s. 6d.; 142 feet, 144s. 6d.; 143 feet, 145s. 6d.; 144 feet, 146s. 6d.; 145 feet, 147s. 6d.; 146 feet, 148s. 6d.; 147 feet, 149s. 6d.; 148 feet, 150s. 6d.; 149 feet, 151s. 6d.; 150 feet, 152s. 6d.; 151 feet, 153s. 6d.; 152 feet, 154s. 6d.; 153 feet, 155s. 6d.; 154 feet, 156s. 6d.; 155 feet, 157s. 6d.; 156 feet, 158s. 6d.; 157 feet, 159s. 6d.; 158 feet, 160s. 6d.; 159 feet, 161s. 6d.; 160 feet, 162s. 6d.; 161 feet, 163s. 6d.; 162 feet, 164s. 6d.; 163 feet, 165s. 6d.; 164 feet, 166s. 6d.; 165 feet, 167s. 6d.; 166 feet, 168s. 6d.; 167 feet, 169s. 6d.; 168 feet, 170s. 6d.; 169 feet, 171s. 6d.; 170 feet, 172s. 6d.; 171 feet, 173s. 6d.; 172 feet, 174s. 6d.; 173 feet, 175s. 6d.; 174 feet, 176s. 6d.; 175 feet, 177s. 6d.; 176 feet, 178s. 6d.; 177 feet, 179s. 6d.; 178 feet, 180s. 6d.; 179 feet, 181s. 6d.; 180 feet, 182s. 6d.; 181 feet, 183s. 6d.; 182 feet, 184s. 6d.; 183 feet, 185s. 6d.; 184 feet, 186s. 6d.; 185 feet, 187s. 6d.; 186 feet, 188s. 6d.; 187 feet, 189s. 6d.; 188 feet, 190s. 6d.; 189 feet, 191s. 6d.; 190 feet, 192s. 6d.; 191 feet, 193s. 6d.; 192 feet, 194s. 6d.; 193 feet, 195s. 6d.; 194 feet, 196s. 6d.; 195 feet, 197s. 6d.; 196 feet, 198s. 6d.; 197 feet, 199s. 6d.; 198 feet, 200s. 6d.; 199 feet, 201s. 6d.; 200 feet, 202s. 6d.; 201 feet, 203s. 6d.; 202 feet, 204s. 6d.; 203 feet, 205s. 6d.; 204 feet, 206s. 6d.; 205 feet, 207s. 6d.; 206 feet, 208s. 6d.; 207 feet, 209s. 6d.; 208 feet, 210s. 6d.; 209 feet, 211s. 6d.; 210 feet, 212s. 6d.; 211 feet, 213s. 6d.; 212 feet, 214s. 6d.; 213 feet, 215s. 6d.; 214 feet, 216s. 6d.; 215 feet, 217s. 6d.; 216 feet, 218s. 6d.; 217 feet, 219s. 6d.; 218 feet, 220s. 6d.; 219 feet, 221s. 6d.; 220 feet, 222s. 6d.; 221 feet, 223s. 6d.; 222 feet, 224s. 6d.; 223 feet, 225s. 6d.; 224 feet, 226s. 6d.; 225 feet, 227s. 6d.; 226 feet, 228s. 6d.; 227 feet, 229s. 6d.; 228 feet, 230s. 6d.; 229 feet, 231s. 6d.; 230 feet, 232s. 6d.; 231 feet, 233s. 6d.; 232 feet, 234s. 6d.; 233 feet, 235s. 6d.; 234 feet, 236s. 6d.; 235 feet, 237s. 6d.; 236 feet, 238s. 6d.; 237 feet, 239s. 6d.; 238 feet,

WELLINGTON MONUMENT.

Among the lions in the vicinity of Woodhall Spa (six miles distant from Horncastle, Lincolnshire), and which is likely to be brought into greater notice by the projected railway on the banks of the Witham, the following may be enumerated:—The noble Castle and splendid



MONUMENT TO THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON, NEAR HORNCASTLE.

Tudor Church of Tattershall; the exquisite little Chapel, in the early English style, with the interesting, although not extensive, ruins of the Abbey at Kirkstead; and the ancient solitary Tower upon the romantic heath. But to these may now be added a stone monument, surmounted by a bust of the Duke of Wellington, and bearing an inscription upon black marble, which will best explain the object of its erection:—

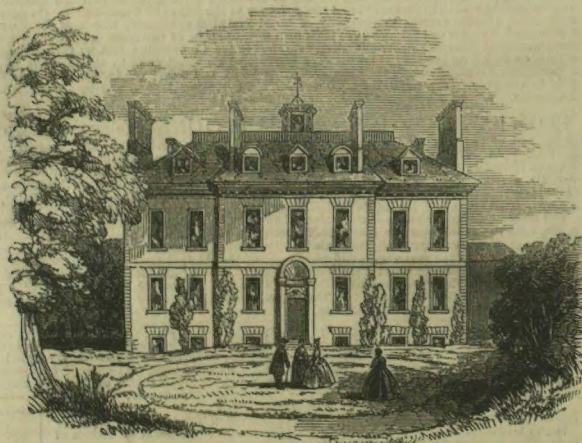
Waterloo wood, raised from acorns sown immediately after the memorable battle of Waterloo, where victory was achieved by that great Captain of the age, his Grace the Duke of Wellington, commanding the British forces, against the French arms, commanded by Napoleon Buonaparte, the 18th of June, 1815; which momentous victory gave general peace to Europe.—This Monument erected by R. E., 1844.

Admiration of the hero has induced Colonel Elmhurst, of Stainton Hall, to raise this tribute of respect upon his property at his sole expense. Perhaps, the oaks of Waterloo wood may hereafter compose our wooden walls, and bear a future Nelson to another Trafalgar.

NOOKS AND CORNERS OF OLD ENGLAND.

ABNEY HOUSE, STOKE NEWINGTON.

In this unostentatious mansion resided the pious Dr. Watts: it was then tenanted by Sir Thomas Abney, who was knighted by King William the Third, and who served the office of Lord Mayor of London in 1700. The mansion and grounds were purchased by the "Abney Park Cemetery Company," who have converted the park into a picturesque burial-ground. The mansion was taken down a short time since, just previous to which it was sketched by Mr. Isaac Ball, of Clapton, who has obligingly suggested the subject as a fitting "Nook and Corner" for our journal. The house was long regarded with peculiar interest in association with the memory of Watts, who has been aptly named a classic of the people. A poet he can scarcely be called, yet his verse is generally smooth, sometimes nervous; and the matter is always judicious, sometimes touching, and sometimes approaching to eloquence. His hymns for children have exercised an influence on the minds of the young far beyond the limits of the dissenting body. His "Logic" was once a text book in various places of education. He was, in his day, one of the most zealous advocates of the principles which placed the House of Hanover on the throne. In his pamphlet in defence of the dissenting charity-schools, he was the efficient precursor of those friends of popular instruction who gave, at a later time, their countenance and support to Joseph Lancaster; and his theological writings are prized by almost



ABNEY HOUSE, STOKE NEWINGTON.

the whole of the religious public of Great Britain. Wherever the English language is spoken, Isaac Watts will be found to have exercised no slender influence in the formation of public opinion. His writings have contributed much to keep alive the spirit of freedom, toleration, and piety.

POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.—This admirable gallery of "science made easy," was apparently by far the most attractive of Monday's "sights," for shoals of people went in as shoals of people came out, and there was scarcely any relaxation of the human tide as it shifted from room to room, now listening to a lecture by Professor Bachmoffer, then hurrying to a remote corner to hear one by Dr. Ryan, filling up the stray intervals of time by curious examinations of the hosts of inexplicable models which stared them in the face at every turn. A curious invention, the result of the ingenuity of Sir George Cayley, a Yorkshire baronet, excited much curiosity. It is a mechanical hand, to be used as a substitute when the natural limb has been lost by accident. The main principle of the contrivance is simple—the action of the stump in a fixed frame work below the elbow being the spring which gives an expanding or collapsing motion to the mimic fingers. A tenant of Sir George's is present, who, having suffered amputation, now uses the substitute of his benevolent landlord. He can grasp a bottle by the neck and pour out a glass of wine; he can shake hands with you and grip you like a vice; and he can even write with facility and freedom. The outward appearance is that of a gloved hand. Perhaps no place in the metropolis is to be named in which so much is to be learned at so small a sacrifice of time and attention as at this place.

LINES UPON "THE PASSAGE OF THE DESERT."

(Occasioned upon hearing David's descriptive composition.)

Arabian solitude—or peopled but
By myriad sands, whose hot breath brings
Death to the traveller that knows not how
To mark it from afar, and lay him down
Prostrate in safety from its withering blight—
Thou wilderness, which e'en no desert bird
Will dare to venture, say hast ever been
A verdant spot? With pestilential dust
To-day thou'rt filled; did Beauty ever dwell
Where poison'd ashes, like the charnel vault's,
Now roll their dismal waves, as the Simoom
Like the dread rush of the Destroyer's wing,
The Angel's, who swept Eden from the earth,
Puts them in whirlwind war? Hath Paradise
Been once where now such desolation reigns?
Mysterious monster of the mighty earth,
Thou art a fearful thing, and yet man dares
And overcomes thy danger! 'Twas decreed!

W.

VIDOCQ.

London is at this moment honoured by the presence of an illustrious visitor, whose name, once a terror to criminals of every grade in France, is not unknown in England, where his strange and eventful "autobiography" once created no small sensation. Vidocq, the celebrated French policeman, is dwelling for a time among us, and as one of the remarkable of a time that produced a Napoleon, a Talleyrand, and a Wellington, we here give his portrait, though his abilities developed themselves in a low but by no means an obscure position. The Chef of the French Police de Sureté was no ordinary man.

Eugene Francois Vidocq was born at Arras, on the 23rd July, 1775, in the house adjoining that in which Robespierre saw the light sixteen years previously. The father of Vidocq was a baker. From early associations his son fell into courses of excess, which led to the necessity of his flying from the paternal roof. After various, rapid, and unexampled events in the romance of real life, in which he was every thing by turns and nothing long, he was liberated from prison, and became the principal and most active agent of police. He was made Chief of the Police de Sureté under Messrs. Delavan and Franchet, and continued in that capacity from the year 1810 till 1827, during which period he extirpated the most formidable of those ruffians and villains to whom the excesses of the revolution and subsequent events had given full scope for the perpetration of the most daring robberies and iniquitous excesses. Removed from employment, in which he had accumulated a handsome independence, he could not determine on leading a life of ease, for which his career of perpetual vigilance and adventure had unfitted him, and he built a paper-manufactory at St. Mandé, about two leagues from Paris.



VIDOCQ.

Here he employed from forty to fifty persons, principally, it is asserted, liberated convicts, who were thus afforded an opportunity of earning an honest living. After his resignation, at the end of M. Villele's Ministry, Vidocq was succeeded in his situation by Coco-Lacour, who had been one of his band, and who has been stamped by Vidocq himself with the character of one of the most expert of thieves. At a subsequent period of his life, Vidocq had to give up his paper manufactory, and was confined in St. Pelagie, for debt. His embarrassments are stated to have arisen from a love of gambling, the temptation to which vice, Vidocq—who could assume all shapes, like a second Proteus—who underwent bitter hardships, and at any time risked his life fearlessly—could not resist. How he has passed the latter few years of his life, there is no public record, but in 1844 he gave to the world four more volumes of his ample experience, under the title of "The True Mysteries of Paris."

GREENWICH FAIR.—The weather was beautiful on Easter Monday, and immense numbers went to Greenwich. The fair itself was of the usual description, that is to say that there were all kinds of shows, from Richardson's grand shilling one, playing three pieces in the space of half an hour, to wit, "The Tyrant Doge" (a tragic drama in one act), a farce, and a pantomime, down to the humblest penny exhibition, with the pig-faced lady, the shaved bear, the pig with two heads, and that "wonderful curiosity" (as the showman termed it) "the fine Durham hox, with seven legs and two eads;"—all kinds of booths;—all kinds of swings, ups-and-downs, merry-go-rounds, aerial ships, and wooden horses;—all kinds of eatables, ham sandwiches, pigs' trotters, fried sausages, roast turkey, cold boiled mutton, mock turtle, and pea-soup; all kinds of drinkables, including even tea, ginger beer, and such sober beverages for the teetotalers;—there were besides, gingerbread and toys, nuts, and oranges, apples, toffee and hardbrake, fairs of the fair, galvanic rings and kissing rings and wedding rings;—all were to be met with in abundance. The park was scarcely so crowded as is usual on a fine holiday; yet there were great numbers of both sexes, gaily sporting themselves upon the green, and numerous were the races that took place down the far-famed One Tree Hill.

STEPPENY FAIR.—This place of amusement, which was formerly considered to be in the suburbs, but now forms part of the metropolis, was renewed on Monday, after its revival two years since, with, if we may judge by the crowds which attended, still increasing attractions. The exhibitions, from the highest to the lowest, were well conducted, and some of them were equal to representations in minor theatres. Not the least attractive feature was an immense dancing booth. Means and appliances for more juvenile enjoyments were abundantly furnished. The number of persons who visited the fair during the day was not less than 200,000, and at nine o'clock there were at least 40,000 in and about the fair. The gambling tables were broken up in the morning by the police, and the owners dispersed. Two of them then retreated to a street near the London Hospital with their tables. They were again routed, taken before Mr. Broderip, and committed to the House of Correction.

BRITISH MUSEUM.—The number of visitors to this national institution on Monday was 15,316, being a decrease in the number, as compared with Easter Monday last year, of 6023—when the number was 21,339.

CHESS.

To CORRESPONDENTS.—The correspondence to this department of the paper has increased to such an extent, that we cannot possibly acknowledge, individually, the numerous solutions, right and wrong, of our problems, which pour in weekly. The writers must be good enough in future to take the solution we give of each problem as the best reply to their communications.

"A Lady."—Correctly played.
"Tyro," Dublin.—Study the elementary lessons in the "Chess Player's Chronicle," and join the Dublin Chess Club, Leinster Chambers, Dame-street—you will rapidly acquire a knowledge of the game then.
"Alice," Tonbridge; "Solicitor," Bridport, and other correspondents on the subject of Problem No. 62, are referred to the notice relative to it in our last No.
"S. S."—The next annual meeting of the Yorkshire Chess Association will be held at the Assembly Rooms, Leeds, on the 14th of May next.
"S.—J.—r." Bolton.—The position sent is familiar to all old chess-players as "Philidor's Legacy," and in reality is as old as Damiano.
"Queen's Pawn," Windsor, has reversed the position of the chess board, and the solution of his problem is all wrong.
"J. H."—The Black King cannot take the Queen in the position sent.
"J. D. B." Settle, is thanked for his friendly wishes. He is quite mistaken in supposing we have any desire to screen an "obvious error." We repeat that, according to the practice of many of the finest constructors of problems, there is no error at all in problem No. 62.
"E. F."—We shall find occasion to speak of the newly-established Plymouth Chess Club hereafter. The problem is too simple.
"H. P."—Next week.
"A Subscriber."—We must decline to acknowledge solutions of our problems.
"H. B." Cecil-street, misapprehends both the letter and spirit of our observations on Mr. Andersen's problem, No. 62. You will, no doubt, obtain the address required by sending your card to the Chess Club in Cavendish-square.
"W. Tapp."—The Duke of Wellington plays chess, but we never heard of his encountering the Automaton Chess Player.

GAME 66.

Mr. Staunton gives the Pawn and three moves to an amateur of the Circle des Echecs. (Remove Black's K B's P from the board.)

WHITE. (M.—)	BLACK (Mr. S.—)	WHITE. (M.—)	BLACK. (Mr. S.—)
1. K P two		13. B to Q 2nd	K P one
2. Q P two		14. Q B P one	Q Kt to Q 4th
3. K B to Q 3rd	Q P one	15. K to Q B 2nd	K Kt to K 2nd
4. K P one	K Kt's P one	16. K Kt to Q 4th	Q Kt to his 5th (ch)
5. K R P two	P takes K P	17. K to Q Kt 3rd	Q Kt to Q R 3rd
6. K R P one	B to K Kt 2nd	18. K to R 3rd	Q R to Q 2nd
7. P takes K Kt P	K R P one	19. Q B to K 3rd	K R to Q sq
8. P takes K P	Q Kt to B 3rd*	20. Q Kt P two	Q B P two
9. K B P two	Q Kt to his 5th	21. Kt to Q Kt 5th	P takes P (ch)
10. K B to K 4th	Q takes Q (ch)	22. P takes P	R to Q 6th (ch)
11. K takes Q	B to K Kt 5th (ch)	23. B takes R	R takes B (ch)
12. K Kt to B 3rd	Castles (giv. ch)	24. Q Kt to B 3rd	R takes B

And Black wins.

* If Black had taken the Pawn with his B, he would have lost the game immediately, e. g. :—

9. P to K Kt 7th
10. K B to K Kt 6th (ch)
And mates next move.
† Threatening to check, and win the Bishop.

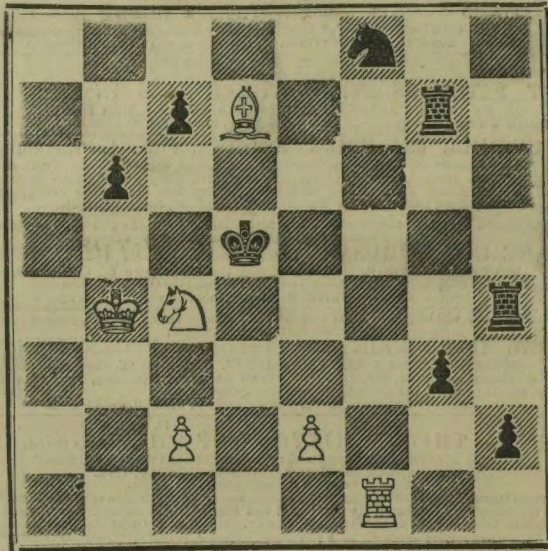
SOLUTION TO PROBLEM No. 65.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1. Q takes K (P ch)	K takes Q
2. Kt to Q's 6th (ch)	K takes Kt
3. Q B P two (ch)	K takes Kt
4. K P one becoming a Kt, gives checkmate	

PROBLEM No. 66.

By Mr. McG.

White to move and mate in four moves.



WHITE.

THE NEW LORD-LIBERTENANT OF FLINTSHIRE.—Sir Watkin W. Wynn, Bart., will be the Lord-Lieutenant of Flintshire, in the room of the late Marquis of Westminster.

THE LORD RECTOR OF MARISCHAL COLLEGE.—The installation of Mr. Sheriff Allison, author of the "History of Europe," &c., as Lord Rector of Marischal College, Aberdeen, took place on Monday last, on which occasion the Professor delivered an admirable address.

DINNER TO SIR HENRY POTTINGER AT GLASGOW.—The corporation of Glasgow have invited Sir H. Pottinger to a public dinner, in that city, on the 16th of April.

SNOW STORM IN STIRLING.—Stirling was visited, on Friday week, with the severest snow storm that has been experienced for some years. The snow continued to fall heavily and almost incessantly till about seven o'clock in the evening; the consequence was, that the roads were in every direction covered, in some places many feet deep, with drifted snow. For several days before and after the storm the weather had been piercingly cold, with the wind easterly.

A WINDFALL FOR A NOTTINGHAM BUTCHER.—A butcher, at Nottingham, has succeeded to a fortune, variously estimated at £8000 to £16,000, by the death of his mother, who was transported for uttering base coin about thirty years ago, but afterwards reformed, married again, and amassed considerable wealth.

A MAN CONVICTED OF POISONING HIS WIFE AND SIX SERVANTS IN BELGIUM.—A man named Van Temeche has been tried at Ghent for poisoning his wife, and then attempting to poison six of his servants. The evidence proved that Van Temeche left his farm on Thursday, the 28th of November, between seven and eight o'clock in the morning, to carry butter to the market at Audenarde. All day his wife was gay and well; at six o'clock she supped heartily with the servants. Van Temeche returned at nine in the evening, bringing with him a packet of liquorice powder, to be given to one of the cows, and also a horse he had purchased. About ten the husband and wife retired to rest, and at three in the morning the latter called her servant, who found her mistress very ill and sick, and who learned that she had been so from eleven o'clock. In this state she continued, and on the Saturday the servants, after dinner of soup, potatoes, and sauce, in making which Van Temeche assisted, contrary to his custom, but of which he did not partake, were all seized with griping pains and vomitings. At six o'clock that evening the wife died, her husband being at the time in the stable, where he had passed most of the day. The body of the wife being opened, the contents of the stomach were carefully analyzed, and proved to contain arsenic. The same was the case with the food that was, fortunately for them, brought off the stomachs of the six servants. It was further proved that the husband (the only person in the house not affected by the poison) had purchased the arsenic the night before at Audenarde. The accused, in answer to questions from the President, said that the arsenic had been purchased to kill rats, and that it had by accident got on to some cakes in the same pocket of his coat, which cakes his wife had eaten. The jury, after fifteen minutes' absence, returned with a verdict of Guilty of poisoning his wife and six servants. The Court deliberated upon their decision, the accused meanwhile giving himself up to the deepest despair, exclaiming, "O God, help my toch" (O God, help me!) The President pronounced judgment upon him, condemning him to death, and ordering that he should be executed in one of the public parts of the city of Ghent.

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